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THE

WORKS

OF THE HONOURABLE

ROBERT BOYLE.

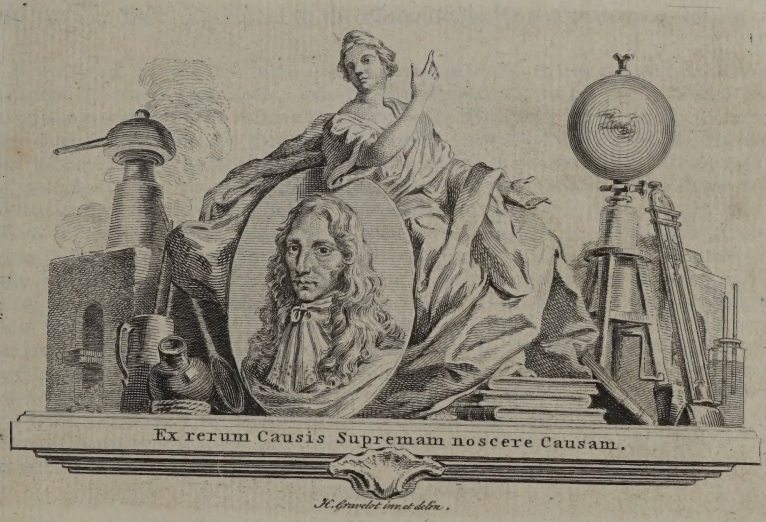
In SIX VOLUMES.

To which is prefixed

The LIFE of the AUTHOR.

VOLUME THE SIXTH.

A NEW EDITION.



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MDCCLXXII.

THE

WORKS

OF THE HONOURABLE

ROBERT BOYLE.

In SIX VOLUMES.

To which is prefixed

The LIFE of the AUTHOR.

VOLUME THE SIXTH.

A NEW EDITION.

A FREE DISCOURSE AGAINST CUSTOMARY SWEARING; AND A DISSUASIVE FROM CURSING.

To the Right Honourable RICHARD Earl of BURLINGTON and CORKE, LORD HIGH TREASURER of IRELAND, and the Honourable Sir HENRY ASHURST, Bart. Executors to the Honourable ROBERT BOYLE, Esq.

IT has been an injury too often done to the memory of persons eminent for knowledge, learning, and virtue, to have, after their death, such works obtruded upon the world for theirs as have been deservedly suspected; or, if theirs, yet were never intended by them, in that squalid, broken, and imperfect condition, to have been published. But as for this tract you were pleased to put into my hands to peruse, it is not only certain that it was wrote by the honourable person whose name it bears, but also that it was designed by him for the press, as some passages in it do apparently shew.

AND if this noble and learned author thought it seasonable for those times of uncontrolled liberty and confusion in which it was wrote, it is as seasonable, if not more, at the present, when that vice against which it is directed, has of late years so far prevailed, to the great dishonour of our nation as well as our religion, that the patriots of our country assembled in parliament have been thereby justly provoked to prepare that late bill (which since has passed the royal assent) for the better and more effectual punishment and suppression of it. A design becoming so august an assembly; and in the prosecution of which your honours must be esteemed to have done considerable service, especially by the publication of this treatise, which has been so happily recovered, and by a singular providence reserved, as it were, for such a special season and service. 1647.

I am, most honoured,

your most humble and faithful servant,

JOHN WILLIAMS.

The PUBLISHER to the READER.

THESE two tracts againſt cuſtomary ſwearing and curſing, lately met with amongſt the papers of a perſon of quality, and an intimate acquaintance of the honourable Mr. *Robert Boyle*, tranſcribed by his own hand, were found, upon peruſal, perfect and fitted for the preſs, except the cloſe of a dedicatory epiſtle to his noble ſiſter, the counteſs of *Kildare*, which (as far as appears by the copy) he had but juſt began.

THE year inſerted on the title-page, as well as a paſſage or two in the former of theſe, ſhews that it was penned towards the latter end of the late unhappy times, when he was about twenty years old; by which time (if I am not miſtaken) this was the third treatiſe he had prepared for the public; the other two being that of *Seraphic Love*, afterwards printed, and an *Eſſay of miſtaken Modeſty*, referred to in this.

I CANNOT ſay (though there is a ſenſible conformity between the ſtyle of theſe and others of his books) but that this honourable author, if he had been to write upon this argument in his riper years, might have given it a finer turn, and added, out of his vaſt ſtore of learning and thought, much to the weight and force of it. But there is in the management of it ſuch a ſtrain of modeſty and unaffected piety, ſuch an affectionate zeal for the honour of Almighty God, and ſuch a paſſionate concernment for the well-doing and happineſs of thoſe of his acquaintance, for whoſe uſe this ſeems more eſpecially deſigned; and in fine, ſo much truth, reaſon, and obſervation (as the pleas and excuſes here undertaken and anſwered ſhew) that muſt above all recommend it to ſuch as have his name in remembrance and veneration.

A NAME, methinks, better than that of ſons, than of daughters, than that of blood and deſcent; and that ſhould provoke thoſe of eminent extraction and ſtation, to an imitation of ſo worthy and glorious an example.

WHAT happy inſtruments might they then be of good to mankind, by their wiſe conduct and their exemplary virtues! What a reſtraint would this lay, above that of laws, on their dependents and inferiors! For how would ſuch dare to offend, that are ſure to find no countenance or protection? And what protection or countenance could they expect from their ſuperiors, whoſe lives would be a continual reproof, and where they could find no more a precedent, than they do a law, to encourage them in their wicked oaths and blaſphemies. To bring theſe vices into diſparagement, and to repreſent the folly as well as the ſin of them, to the better bred part of mankind, was the generous and pious deſign of this learned author, and of thoſe honourable perſons that, from their relation to him by blood or friendſhip, have been concerned in the publication.

TOWARD the utter extermination of which amongſt us there ſeems to be, as human means, nothing more neceſſary than the vigilance of our magiſtrates, who are now as well and fully empowered, as obliged by the law, to ſee to the puniſhment of it; and for the due execution of which they will moſt certainly have the good wiſhes, aſſiſtance, and prayers of all good men, and, which is more than all, the bleſſing and rewards of heaven.

I HAVE only this to add, that the ſecond tract, or letter, ſeems to proceed from the ſame hand with the firſt, being agreeable to it in the ſtyle, as well as the deſign of it; and ſo the naming Mr. *Boyle* in it is but a decent cover for the concealment of himſelf.

A DIS-

A

DISCOURSE

AGAINST

CUSTOMARY SWEARING.

THOUGH I doubt not but that it is much more eaſy to make moſt ſwearers proſelytes than converts, and a taſk of leſs difficulty to convince their judgments, than to reform their practice; yet, that they may not have any colour to father upon ignorance, what is uſually the child of ſome much guiltier parent, it will be, poſſibly, no leſs uſeful than neceſſary, briefly to direct them to thoſe texts of ſcripture, where all thoſe that acknowledge God's word may find the condemnation of that vice.

FIRST then, the third commandment flatly forbids unneceſſary oaths, in terms that are ratified by theſe words of our Redeemer, in St. *Matthew*'s goſpel: "Ye have Matt. v. 33, "heard what hath been ſaid of them of old time, thou ſhalt not forſwear thyſelf, but 34. "ſhalt perform unto the Lord thy oaths: but I ſay unto you, ſwear not all; neither "by heaven, for it is God's throne, nor by the earth, *&c.*" And a little under, "But let your communication be yea, yea, nay, nay; for whatſoever is more than Ver. 37. "theſe cometh of evil." The ſum of which prohibition is thus repeated by St. *James*, towards the cloſe of his catholic epiſtle: "But above all things, my brethren, ſwear James v. 12. "not; neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath; but let "your yea be yea, and your nay nay, leſt you fall into condemnation." And ſuitable to theſe clear paſſages of both teſtaments, the wiſe man characters a ſinner, by him that "ſweareth;" and paraphraſeth a righteous man, by him that "feareth an Eccl. ix. 2. "oath." So in *Hoſea*, ſwearing has the van of the moſt trying and provoking ſins in that ſame diſmal paſſage: "By ſwearing, and lying, and killing, and ſteal- Hoſ. iv. 2, 3. "ing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood: there"fore ſhall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein ſhall languiſh, with "the beaſts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fiſhes of the ſea alſo "ſhall be taken away." And in another prophet we find this threat recorded: "And Zech. v. 3. "every one that ſweareth ſhall be cut off." Which paſſage might be eaſily reinforced with others of the ſame nature, if I did not think theſe, that are already alledged, abundantly ſufficient; where we pay not our faith to the number of the texts, but to the authority of the inditer.

BUT alas! how much more eaſy is it to make men condemn their ſins, than to perſuade them to forſake them? Certainly our underſtandings are (uſually) much honeſter than our wills; it being far eaſier to reconcile mens judgments to the truth, than their practice to their judgment. Cuſtomary and unneceſſary ſwearing (for that is the ſole enemy I undertake) is ſo confeſſedly unlawful, that they are aſhamed to defend it, that bluſh not to practiſe it; and even they renounce it in their opinions, that moſt

cheriſh it in their diſcourſe. But methinks this knowledge of the ill they act, ſhould
Luke xii. 47. make them apprehend that menace of our Saviour, which he threatens, "He that "knoweth his maſter's will, and doth it not, ſhall be beaten with many ſtripes:" for ſtumbles are more pardonable by night than by day; and the knowledge of what we do, whilſt it lends us direction, robs us of excuſe; and if it do not impede, it aggravates our faults; ſince he that does what he condemns, condemns what he does. Up-
Matt. xi. 21, 22. on which ſcore our bleſſed Saviour ſaid, "That *Tyre* and *Sidon* ſhould feel a milder "torment at the day of judgment, than thoſe ungrateful towns *Chorazin* and *Bethſaida*," where the light of his doctrine had ſhone ſo clearly, and the miracles of his life had been ſo familiar. And accordingly we may obſerve, that the devils, that had no tempter to their fall, have found no pardon for it; but having ſinned againſt ſo clear a light, are hopeleſsly reſerved in chains of utter darkneſs, to endure hideous torments unto all eternity.

SECT. I.

BUT that we may leave our ſwearer as little pretence as reaſon for his obſtinacy, let us ſingly and orderly examine his allegations, and tear off thoſe fig-leaves of evaſions and excuſes, the devil teaches him to ſow together, to hide his own deformity from himſelf.

PLEA I.

AMONGST theſe, the firſt allegation we are to remove is this, That ſwearing is in-
Gen. xix. 20. deed a ſin, but that (as *Lot* ſaid of *Zoar*) it is but a "little one;" for were it of the blacker dye, in what a ſad condition were mankind, ſince the number of ſwearers is not inferior to that of men?

ANSWER. But certainly he that ſeriouſly conſiders whom the leaſt ſin offends, and what it merits; how infinite a juſtice, majeſty, and goodneſs, it provokes, and how intolerable and immortal a puniſhment is due unto it, will eaſily concede, that to believe any ſin otherwiſe than comparatively little, is in itſelf an error abſolutely great: for the moſt dwarfiſh are to be called ſmall, but in the ſenſe that the aſtronomers call the earth a point; for ſo indeed it is, compared to the firmament; but in itſelf conſidered it is ſo vaſt, that the ſpots and ſhreds of it are both the ſtage and the ſubjects of the ambition of conquerors, and the jars of monarchs. And truly, ſince the leaſt (unpardoned) ſin is ſufficient to damn us, methinks we ſhould as little ſlight petty faults, becauſe there are fouler crimes, as we do piſtols, now there are cannons uſed. But granting this aſſertion to be true in the general, it will forfeit that attribute in this
Exod. xx. 7. application: for this ſin is one of thoſe that are expreſsly and by name forbidden in the ten commandments; where it is not only liſted among, but has the precedency of murder, theft, and of adultery, being the ſole commandmont (ſave one) that has a threat annexed to the law; which in this paſſage is, "For the Lord will not hold him "guiltleſs that taketh his name in vain." In which laſt words the great lawgiver, foreſeeing men would be very remiſs in the proſecution of a fault, in which their want of zealous piety makes them not to be concerned, declares that he himſelf will take the vindication of his honour into his own hands, and inflict himſelf the puniſhment of a crime, that fears it but from him. And then if thoſe treſpaſſes be not ſeverely dealt with that are alone puniſhable by the ſupreme magiſtrate, let all con-
Heb. x. 31. ſider what "a fearful thing it is to fall into the hands of the living God." Which brings into my mind a pretty extravagancy that is reported of the *Turkiſh* laws, which puniſh

puniſh blaſphemy (as they call it) againſt *Mahomet* with inevitable death, but enact no penalty upon the like diſhonour offered to God. Becauſe *Mahomet* (ſay they) is not in a condition to vindicate himſelf; but God is ever able to revenge his own affronts, and therefore they reſign that care to him. Who indeed many times has (in ſuch caſes) done it ſo ſoundly, and ſo much to the purpoſe, that thoſe ſaucy wretches have had cauſe to think it as poor a privilege, to have their oaths out of the cognizance of the laws of men, as thieving beggars do to be exempted from the danger of the beadle and the ſtocks, becauſe their crimes are reſerved for the gallows.

BUT to reſume our proofs of the ſinfulneſs of ſwearing. Admit the guilt of ſingle oaths were no leſs venial than is pretended, yet certainly, when in moſt ſwearers the frequency of ſwearing is ſo great, that one day may be guilty of more than a thouſand oaths; (theſe ſins not growing ſingle, as apples or cherries, but like grapes, by cluſters, the ſwearer's devil having a title to the name of the *Gaderene* ſpirit, that, anſwer- Mark v. 9.
ing our Saviour, called himſelf Legion) their multitude cannot but render them conſiderable; and he that remembers, that a thouſand holes may as well ſink a ſhip as ſome great leaks, will conclude oaths to be extremely dangerous, at leaſt for their number, though they were not ſo for their heinouſneſs. Nor are they only ruinous to the perſons that uſe them, but have a deſtructive influence upon that ſtate that ſuffers them. For whether or no what the prophet related once of *Judah*, "Becauſe of ſwearing Jer. xxiii. 10.
"the land mourneth," be not a fulfilled prophecy of *England*, I wiſh it were rather charity than partiality to doubt. For though the multitude and variety of our ſins be ſo great, that it is a puzzling taſk to determine to what particular crimes our calamities are due, yet certainly our oaths are too conſiderable an acceſſion to our ſins, not to infuſe a ſuitable proportion of gall and wormwood into that bitter cup (of affliction) theſe gaſping kingdoms drink ſo deeply of; and whatſoever feathered, I am confident our oaths have ſtrangely pointed thoſe fatal arrows, that deſtroy theſe nations.

As for the ſuppoſal this miſtake is built on (the involvedneſs of all men in the guilt of ſwearing) it is as weak as it is uncharitable: for (beſides that to allow no body an innocence from ſwearing, is as much a ſlander to mankind in its preſent condition, as it would be its crime, if the accuſation were true) our Saviour gives us the world's example rather for a caution, than for imitation; where he tells us, that the way to hell Matt. vii. 13.
is a road, and thronged with numerous travellers; but heaven's path is narrow, and the gate that inlets to thoſe manſions of bliſs, as unfrequented as it is ſtrait. Even *Mahomet* himſelf (in his diſcourſe with the *Jew Adia*) having at the laſt day divided mankind into threeſcore troops, makes but three of them believers, and all the reſt reprobates. But certainly he, whoſe command this is, "Thou ſhalt not follow a mul- Exod. xxiii. 2.
"titude to do evil," will hardly take the practice of that multitude for a juſt diſpenſation of the law of that God, who having commanded us to live by good precepts, will ſcarce accept it for an excuſe, that we have erred by bad examples. It would be a ſtrange abſurdity in phyſic, becauſe a peſtilence is more diſperſed and epidemical, to think it therefore the leſs dangerous; or to believe, that the multitude of ſtinking carcaſes can leſſen the noiſomneſs of the ſtench. But as in pious duties the general concurrence contributes to the acceptation, ſo in ſins, the like conſent but haſtens on revenge; it being with the guilty kingdoms as with leaking boats, where the number of the paſſengers but makes them ſink more nimbly. And accordingly we read, that the univerſality of the *Sodomites* beaſtlineſs was ſo far from juſtifying each ſingle ſin- Gen. xviii.
ner, that they were all conſumed with fire from heaven, for the ſole want of ten right- 32.
teous perſons. It is for them only that think it no miſery to burn in hell with others, to fancy it no ſin to ſwear with company: but for the reſt of men, let them take this from me, that ſins, whoſe ſeeming pettineſs makes them leſs formidable, do often-

times

times prove the moſt dangerous; and he that dares eſteem any ſin ſmall, may ſoon be brought to think none great.

PLEA II.

WELL, but objects the ſwearer, I do not ſwear ſo often, and my conſcience, by ſeldom accuſing me of that ſin, aſſures me that I do but unfrequently commit it.

ANSWER. But ſure in vice, whoſe eſſence conſiſts in a repugnance to mediocrity, every little is too much; and he that ſwears feweſt oaths, ſwears yet too many by the whole number that he ſwears. One oath is too many by one, when one is enough to damn. And who would ſwallow poiſon, becauſe obliged ſeldom to repeat his draught? To paſs over this, that the ſame conſiderations that contract the number of your oaths do aggravate their guilt, by arguing both a clearer knowledge of the ill you act, and a more bridling power to reſtrain it. But alas! how ſeldom does the ſilence of his conſcience make for the ſwearer? We know that inſenſibility of pain may as well proceed from the deadneſs and ſtupifiedneſs of the part, as from a perfect and unmoleſted health. In fighting, that is held a heavier blow, that (ſtunning) takes away the ſenſe of pain, than that which pains the ſenſe. Beware your tranquillity reſemble you not to the toad, that feels not poiſon, becauſe he is all poiſon; and reſents no alteration from it, becauſe it is natural to him. There are legions of ſwearers, in whoſe mouths cuſtom ſwears undiſcernedly; and who being taxed with it (and believe what they ſpeak too) ſwear that they are no ſwearers, and thus commit the fault they would wipe off the imputation of. But wiſe phyſicians hold it a fatal ſymptom, when excrements are voided without the patient's knowledge; and it is a ſign that the thief has haunted long, when the maſtiff forbears to bark at him. In ſuch caſes conſcience, like oppreſſed ſubjects under an armed tyrant, forbears expoſtulations, not out of want of the cauſes of complaint, but out of uſe of ſufferings. But certainly this lethargy of ſecurity is much more dangerous, than the fever of a reſtleſs conſcience; ſince in the one, the ſmart ſoon drives us to the ſearch of phyſic, but the other is ſo far from addreſſing us to remedies, that it never lets us know we need them. In ſuch ſtill conſciences, as in the ſea, the ſmoothest ſeas, the ſmootheſt calms, forerun the rudeſt tempeſts: for conſcience, when long forced to play the mute, turns to a ſcold at laſt; being like overladen muſkets, which, whilſt no fire comes near them, can ſcarce be known from them that are not charged; but at the leaſt ſpark (of ſerious terror) that falls into the touch-hole, they will be ſure to fly about our ears.

PLEA III.

TRUE; but (may you anſwer) there are others that ſwear as much as I, and oftner; why then are they not more reprehended for more frequent faults?

Gal. iv. 16. ANSWER. To this I may reply in the terms of the apoſtle; "Am I therefore your
Prov. vi. 23. & xiii. 18. "enemy, becauſe I tell you the truth?" And add out of *Solomon*, "That reproofs "of inſtruction are the way of life." "That poverty and ſhame ſhall be to the man "that refuſeth inſtruction, but he that regardeth reproof ſhall be honoured." And laſtly, "That he that being often reproved, hardneth his neck, ſhall ſuddenly be de-"ſtroyed, and that without remedy." I know there are many *Sauls*, whoſe choler flames againſt thoſe *Davids* that endeavour their diſpoſſeſſion, though they attempt the cure even with muſic, I mean the mildeſt and the gentleſt way. But I muſt
Prov. xxx. 12. beg my ſwearer to conſider, that it is an inſpired writer that aſſures me, "There is a "generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not waſhed from their filthi-

" neſs." Your excuſe is juſt as if in an hoſpital a deſperate patient ſhould ſay to his phyſician, Why I can need no phyſic, for there are others here as ſick, and many more diſeaſed than I.

To complain of being reprehended for vice, is to complain that one is cared for; like the favourite child, that cries for having the knife taken away from him, when it is not from others, for whom we care not whether they cut themſelves or no: which is as if our eyes had right to quarrel with us, for not enduring that duſt there we ſuffer in our ſhoes. Certainly, as we deſerve not praiſe for other mens virtues, ſo can we not decline cenſure by the allegation of their faults. Take heed there be not places hot enough in hell, though others fry in more tormenting flames; and remember, that as it is not health to be not altogether as ſick as gaſping people; ſo it is but a very ſorry goodneſs not to be as bad as the worſt. How ſtrangely are our affections miſplaced! In tranſitory goods, which he rates juſtlieſt that prizes leaſt, we think we never have enough, if any body elſe has more; but in the goods of the mind, which cannot be overvalued, we think ourſelves ſufficiently ſtored, if others enjoy leſs. We are diſcontented at another's wealth, and proud of his vices; and whereas his greater poverty ſhould exalt our gratitude, and his greater piety create our emulation, his riches make us envious, and his ſinfulneſs ſecure.

PLEA IV.

WELL (may you reply) but I ſcorn to ſwear falſely; and what I know to be true, why may I not ſafely ſwear?

ANSWER. This weak objection ſatisfies many ſwearers (ſo eaſily men believe what they deſire) but with as little reaſon as they ſwear with need: for that not falſe alone, but raſh and unneceſſary oaths are forbidden, appears evidently by the expreſſion made uſe of in the third commandment; where perjury is not alone condemned, but it is flatly written, " Thou ſhalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Which if needleſs and cuſtomary ſwearing do not, it will be a ſtrange riddle to me what the commandment means to prohibit. But that this is the genuine ſenſe and deſign of thoſe words, is cleared by theſe expreſs ones of our Saviour (cited before in St. *Matthew*'s goſpel) " Ye have heard that it hath been ſaid of old time, thou ſhalt not Matt. v. 33, " forſwear thyſelf, but ſhalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: but I ſay unto you, 34, &c. " ſwear not at all; neither by heaven, for it is God's throne, nor by the earth, *&c.*" And to this ſenſe the annexed affirmative precept expounds the negative law; the word communication in the former ſhewing the interdict to be chiefly meant of oaths employed in common diſcourſe and converſation. Nay, God himſelf ſeems manifeſtly to determine all the controverſy, by that clear diſtinction expreſſed in a paſſage of *Leviticus*, whoſe words run thus: " And ye ſhall not ſwear by my name falſely; neither Lev. xix. 12. " ſhalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord." And certainly, if we muſt anſwer at the laſt day for every idle word, how much more will that account be exacted of us for every idle oath?

THE *Jews* at this day (as I learned whilſt I lately converſed with them at *Amſterdam*) have ſo profound a reverence for that great name of Jehovah (commonly called *Nomen Tetragrammaton*, and ineffable, ſo frequently recorded in the ſcriptures) that they hold it unlawful for mortal lips ſo much as to pronounce it. But though I eſteem this fancy ſuitable enough to the reſt of the extravagancies of their modern tenets, yet certainly their ſuperſtition will condemn our irreverence. I remember an expoſitor obſerves upon the vith of *Deuteronomy*, and the 13th verſe, that the word there, which ſignifies ſwear, is put in the *Hebrew* in the paſſive ſenſe, to imply, that our ſwearing ought

ought to be a kind of neceſſitated act. And a father tells us of one *Clinias*, a *Pythagorean*, who being fined in a great ſum of money, which he might have eſcaped with an oath, choſe rather to pay the penalty impoſed, than not to pay unto God the reverence that he thought due unto his name. Beſides, he that makes no conſcience of ſwearing vainly, will ſoon make but little of ſwearing falſely: for he that in a lower degree ſo voluntarily breaks God's commandment for nothing, may ſoon be drawn to break it in a little higher degree for his profit.

AND though many of our gallants (doubtleſs in a pure compliment to the devil) are pleaſed to condemn the breach of this commandment only when the ſinner wants the excuſe of an advantage by it; yet certainly, he that uſes to toſs God's ſacred name in his mouth without any reverence, and employs it about every trifle, will eaſily be tempted not to care much what he does with it, nor to what uſe he puts it. And therefore holy *David* makes it a ſymptom of hatred againſt God, when in a pſalm he
Pſal. cxxxix. 20. ſays, "Thine enemies take thy name in vain." Theſe conſiderations may clearly teach us what to think of thoſe uſual forms of ſpeech, ſuch as are, God forgive me, God help you; and the like of thoſe cuſtomary exclamations, ſuch as are, O God! O Jeſus! and thoſe others that are uſually employed to proclaim our wonders, or ſupply the want of a compliment with an exceſs of irreverence: for though theſe unregarded treſpaſſes be in moſt perſons faults venial enough, as the effects rather of ignorance and heedleſſneſs, than of deſign; yet are they faſhions of ſpeaking, which, beſides that they are always needleſs, and often ſcandalous, do but inure our mouths to a very ſaucy ſlighting of that awful name, which eternally to praiſe, ſhall be in heaven both our employment and our happineſs.

PLEA V.

NOR will it avail the oathmonger to reply, But I do not take God's name in vain; for I ſwear not by God, or by Chriſt, or other oaths of the like nature, but only by the creatures, as by this light, by this bread, by heaven, and the like; and the creatures name I hope it is no ſin to take in vain.

ANSWER. For ſure if we will allow our Saviour to be the beſt interpreter of his
Matt. v. 34. Father's commandments, he will teach us a very differing leſſon in thoſe (already twice alledged) words of St. *Matthew:* for doubtleſs he that forbids to ſwear by heaven, the nobleſt, or by earth, the meaneſt ingredients of this vaſt fabric of the world, intended that prohibition ſhould reach all other creatures; which is as clear as light in the enſuing words of the 37th verſe of the ſame chapter, where Chriſt's expreſs injunction is, "But let your communication be yea, yea, nay, nay; for whatſoever is "more than theſe cometh of evil."

BESIDES, either by the thing you ſwear by you mean God, or no; if the former, your guilt is evident in the breach of God's commandment; and if the latter, re-
Jer. v. 7. member what the Spirit ſays in *Jeremy*, "How ſhall I pardon thee for this? Thy chil-"dren have forſaken me, and ſworn by them that are no gods." And in effect, it is queſtionable in divinity whether be the greater ſin, to ſwear falſely by the Creator, or with truth by the creatures; for as the former is an act of high impiety, ſo is the latter
Deut. vi. 13. & x. 20. Iſa. lxv. 16. Joſh. xxiii. 7. Jer. xii. 16. Exod. xxiii. 13. of idolatry: becauſe ſwearing by any thing being a part of divine worſhip (as the paſſages in the margin leads to will evidence) implies in us an acknowledgment of ſome divinity in the thing we ſwear by; which, without omniſcience, is uncapable to diſcern the inward truth or falſhood of our oaths; and without omnipotence, unable to reward the one, or puniſh the other. A conſideration ſo prevalent with many of the primitive martyrs, that they choſe rather to expire in torments, than ſwear by the genius

of

of the emperor. Nor is an oath only an act or ſpecies of divine worſhip, *Iſ.* xlviii. 1. and xlv. 23. but by a ſynecdoche is taken for the whole worſhip that men pay their Maker, in the lxiiid *Pſalm*, and the laſt, and in *Jer.* iv. 2.

PLEA VI.

ALLIED to this plea is theirs that will not flatly ſwear by God, but by certain fictitious terms and abbreviatures, as by *Dod*, &c. and by the like diſguiſing of them, believe to juſtify their oaths; as if they cared not, ſo (like *Saul* to the witch of *Endor*) they may go maſked to Satan. 1 Sam. xxviii. 8.

ANSWER. To theſe I ſhall only anſwer with the apoſtle, "Be not deceived, God "is not mocked;" ſince (as the ſame apoſtle elſewhere ſays) "He taketh the wiſe "in their own craftineſs." Well may this childiſh evaſion cheat our own ſouls, but never him, who judgeth as well as he diſcerns intents; and regards not ſo much the preciſe ſignification of your words, as what they are meant and underſtood for; which (in ſuch caſes) is uſually an oath, ſince the ſame credit is both given and expected upon theſe mongrel oaths, that is paid to thoſe they mean, but would not ſeem. Theſe people bring into my mind the bloody perſecutors of our firſt Chriſtians, who clothed them in the ſkins of ſavage beaſts, that it might ſeem no crime to worry them; for ſo theſe hypocrites diſguiſe God's name, to give themſelves the licence to diſhonour it. Gal. vi. 7. 1 Cor. iii. 19.

IT is a very pretty ſlight of theſe gentlemen, to cozen the devil to their own advantage, and to find out by-ways to damnation, and deſcend to hell by a pair of back-ſtairs; and methinks argues a cunning much about the ſize of his, that pleaded he was innocent of falſifying the king's coin, becauſe he had diſplaced ſome letters in the motto. But to hell, as to towns, theſe ſingular by-paths (though leſs frequented) may lead directlier than the broad highways: and to theſe gentlemen, and thoſe that rely upon the laſt anſwered objection, I ſhall at preſent only recommend the ſerious pondering of that paſſage of the wiſe man in the *Proverbs*: "All the ways "of a man are clean in his own eyes, but the Lord weigheth the ſpirits." Prov. xvi. 2.

PLEA VII.

IT is a uſual excuſe of ſome ſort of ſwearers, that they ſwear only ſome peculiar oath, and that one kind of oath cannot amount to ſuch a crime as the more ſcrupulous pretend.

ANSWER. An apology equally excuſing with the thief's, that ſhould alledge that he commits all his robberies upon the ſame horſe; and the drunkard, that ſhould offer to juſtify his beaſtlineſs, by affirming that he never foxes himſelf but with one ſort of wine, or in ſuch a peculiar unaltered bowl. Remember what an apoſtle ſomewhere ſays of ſinning, "Whoſoever ſhall keep the whole law, and yet offend "in one point, he is guilty of all." Juſt as a man that wounds the buck in the vitals, is truly and properly ſaid to have killed the deer, although the ſhaft reached but the head or heart, leaving the legs and other parts untouched. Thus in a globe, though there be numerous parts, yet he is guilty of breaking the whole globe, that breaks it but within the arctic circle, though near the equator it have eſcaped that violence: for whereſoever you break it, you break the globe; its eſſence conſiſting in the entireneſs, that is ruined by the fraction of any part. Sin, becauſe natural to us, is ſo readily learnt by us, that as in ſhooting, by practiſing to hit wrens and ſilly ſparrows, we learn the art of killing feldifares, thruſhes, and the other ſort James ii. 10.

of birds we never aimed at; ſo by committing ſome ſmall ſin we learn, though inſenſibly (and perhaps undeſignedly) to commit other and groſſer kinds of ſins.

Exod. xxxii. 19. ONE act may make us do diſpoſitively, what *Moſes* is recorded to have done literally (at the foot of mount *Sinai*) break all the ten commandments at once; for ſingle diſobediences, if preſumptuous, may have the power to exile that fear of God, whoſe expulſion compriſes in it the whole trade of ſin, which (conſcience once deſpiſed) is known without being learnt. If a reverence to the commandment were that which did place limits to the variety of your oaths, it would not permit the uſe of any one, but lay an equal reſtraint in relation to them all; ſince the ſinfulneſs of ſwearing does conſiſt not in the diverſity of our oaths, but in their forbiddenneſs. But this excuſe itſelf is often wanting to many of our gallants, who not content with the received forms of diſhonouring their Maker's name, do as much affect novelty in their oaths, as in the faſhion; and if they have a gift of ſingularity in ſwearing, are as proud of it as of their miſtreſs's favour: ſuch people are as nice as impious in their oaths, they will never uſe any till it be ſtale and threadbare, but (ever like their clothes) leave them off before they have been worn long enough to grow old. But whilſt they are thus induſtrious in the diſcovery of new ways of provoking their Creator, it is much to be feared that they do but (if I may ſo ſpeak) find out for themſelves a north-weſt paſſage to damnation.

PLEA VIII.

BUT, continues the ſwearer, if I ſwear not I ſhall not be believed.

ANSWER. But (it is replied again) belief is better wanted, than purchaſed at ſo dear a rate as ſin; ſince he that parts with heaven makes over a bad bargain, though Matt. xvi. 26. the whole world were the accepted price. But alas! unleſs men will conſtrue their diſobediences for arguments of your obſequiouſneſs, how unlikely is it that (by believing you ſpeak truth, becauſe you uſe to ſwear you do not lye) they ſhould take your readineſs to tranſgreſs one of God's commandments, for a proof that you dare not break another.

How ridiculous would men eſteem that merchant, that ſhould be confident to gain credit amongſt lenders, by giving bond for every trivial ſum, for which others are truſted upon their bare word? For in oaths (as in moſt other things) too conſtant a frequency depreciates that authority, which their rareneſs, as well as nature, gives them; that not being held a ſufficient ſecurity for the belief of a doubted or important truth, that is laviſhed to authoriſe every trivial and impertinent aſſertion; nor thought a convincing atteſtation of a queſtioned truth, that flows rather from a cuſtom of ſinning, than deſign of confirming. No, no; he needs not many oaths, that uſes few; for to be known to make a conſcience of an oath, will gain your words more credit than the ſwearing of a thouſand; it being a viſible and remarkable judgment of the offended Deity upon oaths, that their number diſcredits that truth itſelf would perſuade.

SINCE then it is your habitude of ſwearing needleſsly, that alone engages you to a neceſſity (as you call it) of ſwearing to be believed, let your diſcontinuance remove that obligation cuſtom only has contracted; and believe me, that the moſt perſuading aſſeveration of all is ſo to live, as not to need to ſwear. That ſociableneſs, which you alledge to extenuate your fault, but aggravates the heinouſneſs of the crime, by confeſſing cuſtomary oaths to be like jealous tyrants, whom we cannot entertain without giving admittance to their retinue and their guard, ſince in this vice you acknowledge the act an engagement to a repetition; and that oaths, which are the ultimate

timate and highest confirmations of truth in their nature, must yet (by this fine policy) themselves derive an authority from their multitude; which is very unnecessary where the assertor is believed, and usually does but create distrusts, where the veracity is not credited. Heb. vi. 16.

PLEA IX.

OF kin to this is their apology, who plead that if they do not swear, their words shall neither be feared nor obeyed by their very servants; men's ears being of late so accustomed unto oaths, that they are necessary to make them think we are in earnest. This is the usual objection of the *French*, amongst whom this vice is grown so epidemical (as of blackness amongst the *Ethiopians*) its commonness has removed all the deformities they would otherwise find in it.

ANSWER. But sure there are ways enough to make your servants obey your commands, without your breaking God's. Gravity and severity, not using them to hear you swear, are courses likelier far than oaths to reach that end; which if they yet should fail of, they would turn this fancied inconvenience into an advantage of necessitating you to the election of religious servants. Certainly, since the sole universality of vice has drawn upon us this supposed necessity, a general and unanimous desertion of it must needs be the propereſt expedient for its removal. And, believe me, it is but an extravagant way of teaching our inferiors to pay us their duties, to teach them to disobey the commands of their superiors by our own example, and to lead them the way to despise the injunctions of the most adored powers, to whom we confess to owe an exquisite obedience, upon the highest considerations.

BUT admitting (as the dispersedness of this vice too often forces us) the supposal of this plea to be true, yet will the inference prove consequent? For by the same reason the thief might justify the unreclaimedness in his robberies, by alledging, if he forsake that trade, his purse must soon grow empty; or the Buona Roba excuse her prostitutions, by saying, that unless she continue her former profession of wantonness, she shall no more be presented with new gowns, and linen richly laced, nor be able any longer to maintain her wonted riots; her conversion (by forbidding her to be the cherisher of her gallants loose excesses) depriving her of the only fuel of her bravery. Upon how few could we with justice press religious duties, if such petty inconveniencies attending their performance, were a warrantable dispensation or disengagement from it? Surely he that requires that we should "pull out our right eyes, Matt. v. 29, "and cut off our right hands," if they oppose our entrance in at the strait gate, will 30. scarce give them admittance, that will not purchase it by the parting with such trivial conveniencies. It is much less unreasonable that you should be neither believed nor obeyed with readiness, than that God should either not be believed when he speaks, or not obeyed when he commands. For take this for a truth, to which oracles are fables, that never any man commits a sin to shun an inconveniency, but one way or other, soon or late, he plunges himself by that act into a far worse inconveniency than that he would decline.

PLEA X.

OTHERS there are, that use to represent that they swear not but when they are angry; and then (for all our clamours and exaggerations) they mean no harm at all.

ANSWER. But would you take it for a justification of your wife's adulteries, if she should tell you, that she never prostitutes herself but when her fits of lust tempt her

to give that satisfaction to her appetite? Besides, this is but to excuse one fault with another; and with no greater justice than his that should defend a bastard's crimes, by alledging that his mother was a whore; since the nature, as well as the duty of virtue, being the moderation of our passions, it is evident that their excesses degenerate into sins; and therefore how that can be a good excuse that needs one, and how that anger, which in itself is sinful, can impart an innocence to productions in their own nature culpable, let those that are concerned determine.

Eph. iv. 26. FOR my part, when I consider the apostle's command, "Be ye angry, and sin "not;" I cannot but apprehend, that when our passions swell into excess, they are indeed contaminated by the guiltiness of their productions, but confer not upon them a meritoriousness, which themselves want. But why, I pray, in every passionate mood, must you be transported to commit sins, that are as unprofitable as impious; and to deserve your crosses, by a saucy provocation of your God, whom you then endeavour to make your enemy, when you must need his favour to protect you from disquiets? Why must your tongue fly in your Maker's face, and vilify his sacred name, because your dice turn up size-ace rather than quatre-trey? For either he is the guider of those seeming chances, or meddles not with their dispósal: in this last case you are palpably injurious, to make God the object of your choler, when he is not the cause of it; and in the former case your folly is not inferior, instead of propitiating, to incense that Deity, who is the sole disposer of those fortunes we either wish or fear.

BUT take heed he give you not too much pretence to be so, by displeasing you (as discreet mothers whip their froward children, that cry without cause) and punish in his anger these rash and culpable expressions of yours. As for the other branch of the excuse, I mean the harmlessness of your intent; to that I must reply, that our actions may as well offend as our intents, if they be subsequent to our knowledge of God's aversion to what we do: and usually men take it for a sufficient offence to do what we are sure will disoblige them, though with a differing design. Nor do we think ourselves less injured by robbers when they strip us, because they offer us that violence not with intent to anger us, but only to make a booty of our purses. It is a received maxim in divinity, which moralists prop with their full concurrence, that no goodness (much less bare innocence) of the intent, can justify a formal sinful evil. If then the committing of this sin against the knowledge of the ill you act, be not crime enough to condemn you, you must not be denied my absolution. But withal, I must acquit most sinners in the world upon the self-same score, and believe the threatned flames of hell as uninhabited as insupportable; since certainly such sinners (if any such there be) must be prodigious, no less for their unequalled rarity than deviliish perverseness, that are such monsters as to offend their Maker, merely to offend him. For in philosophy our masters teach us, that ill under that notion cannot be the object of our choice (that being ever a real, or at least a seeming good) and though in our misguided elections we oftentimes embrace it, yet that is ever under a contrary notion, and rather by mistake than by design.

BUT oh! how industrious are sinners to deceive themselves; and how strangely does the devil fascinate and blind deluded mortals, when (by such silly and impertinent excuses) he persuades them rather to expose their judgments to a certain discredit, than let their souls be ransomed from an ignoble slavery, into a glorious freedom; and rather suffer their abilities to be believed weak, than permit their lives to be made virtuous. Certainly such people would make me as much astonished as themselves are faulty, if I did not consider this gallant property of rather making bad apologies to defend their sins, than good resolutions to forsake them, as entailed upon them by a kind of traduction from our first parents, who hoped with fig-leave aprons, and the faint

faint ſhade of trees, to hide both their nakedneſs and their diſobedience from the omniſcient eye of God himſelf.

I WILL not waſte ink upon their ſucceſsleſs and impudent defence, that make their drunkenneſs an apology for their ſwearing, and make that an excuſe for their ſin, which is itſelf a ſin above excuſe; but with as little juſtice, as the keeper of the lions in the *Tower* could excuſe any particular tragedy they had acted, by alledging that he had voluntarily let them looſe. But ſince the tempers that moſt diſpoſe men to a flux of oaths, are drunkenneſs and choler, give me leave, by the bye, to take notice of the chief midwives that are uſually aſſiſtant to the birth of oaths; and to obſerve, that as the thunder falls not but when heaven is overcaſt, ſo we are proneſt to ſwear, when the beaſtlineſs of our paſſions hath either blinded or depoſed our reaſon.

PLEA XI.

IT is confeſſed, you may alledge, that ſwearing is a moſt heinous ſin, but I do never ſwear myſelf, but only to repeat thoſe oaths of another (which are therefore his ſins, not mine) whoſe omiſſion would ſpoil the jeſt.

ANSWER. This brings into my mind the known ſtory of that merry gentleman, who, to ſhew the ſullen juſtice how the maſtiff he had killed had firſt aſſaulted him and overthrown him, runs full butt at the formal Sir's breaſt, and ſends both him and his chair to ſalute the ground: for when a ſin cannot be imitated without being committed, then that you but repeat it only, is as ſorry an excuſe as his muſt be, who, to illuſtrate the relation of a murder, ſhould piſtol the firſt man he meets withal. Beſides, when did tranſgreſſion by precedent turn innocence? and what was unlawful in the act, become legitimate in the repetition? It is acknowledged, that the relating of another's oaths may ſometimes be not only lawful, but neceſſary; but then it muſt be either to diſcover or convert the ſwearer, or elſe when the oath is ſome material circumſtance of a ſerious narrative. But here the very end adds guiltineſs to the action, it being only to make another's vice applauded, and render his ſin both infectious and immortal. But how will you juſtify this introducing of God's name only (like a fool in a play) to make the company laugh, and to bring it into contempt, from the diſobedience to the prohibition of taking God's name in vain? Unleſs (perhaps) the conſequences of your ſin teach you a conſtruction, that may reſolve this difficulty; and the judgments your ſwearing will produce, ſhew you in what ſenſe you have taken your Maker's name in vain. Remember how ſad a reckoning was preſented to *Belſhazzar*, by the hand-writing upon the wall, for having turned the veſſels of the temple into implements and furtherers of mirth, at his ſumptuous entertainment; and conſider betimes, that God may leſs reſent the making merry in his holy cups, than the making merry with his moſt holy name.

To this may well be added, that in this ſinning at the ſecond hand, the copied ſin is held more criminal in the tranſcript than in the original; for beſides that this ſwearer by imitation acknowledges himſelf ſo delighted with the other's ſin, that he becomes the devil's mountebank (or his zany) to have it admired by all that hear him (and we know that approbation is but an after-conſent;) beſides this, I ſay, the leading ſwearer has the excuſe of an immediate applauſe; whereas the apiſh repeater wrongs and diſcredits his own piety, only to celebrate and proclaim another's wit; if that be not too partially termed wit, that appears ſuch only to our corruptions: ſince when the oath muſt make the jeſt, it is only the devil in us that is pleaſed with it. Handſome replies are good without oaths, and dull ones will not be made good by them: to the one they are needleſs, to the other they are uſeleſs; that being juſtly enough applicable to oaths in apophthegms, which is uſually believed in painting of faces, that beauties need it not, and deformed women look but ridiculouſly for it.

"FOOLS,"

Prov. xiv. 9. "FOOLS" (ſays the wiſe man) "make a mock of ſin;" they can take pleaſure to hear him affronted, in whoſe communion conſiſts happineſs; and make that the fuel of their jollity, that ſhould be the object of their deteſtation. For my part, I do not like this doing in jeſt, what a man may be damned for in earneſt; and I much wonder that we frail mortals, whoſe faults are more numerous than the very minutes we have lived, ſhould think our own ſins too few to condemn us, without adopting thoſe of others too! And to our crimes (too numerous already) adding theſe ſins of ſupererogation! But to reſume our theme.

PLEA XII.

THERE remains yet a prejudice to remove, which, though very rarely the pretence of ſwearers, is very often a prevalent motive to ſwearing, and is an evil by ſo much the more obſtructive to theſe ſinners reclaiming, by how much the more ſilently it oppoſes it. This is a fooliſh fancy that many ſwearers cheriſh, that their oaths make them looked upon with a kind of admiration, as gentleman-like ſins; and witneſs in them ſo bold and daring a courage, that it extends to a fearleſſneſs of God himſelf.

ANSWER. But though their bluſhing to own ſo childiſh a pretence, be a ſufficient diſproval of it; yet ſince as in war, ſo in diſputes, we conſider not ſo much the perſonal ſtrength of the adverſary we attempt, as the rank he holds among thoſe that employ him, it will not be amiſs to remove an obſtacle, made conſiderable by being ſo great a vice's motive, and ſo great a motive to that vice: though of this ſort of ſwearers (as of ſome ſavages that lurk in rocks and woods) it be much more difficult to obtain a battle, than to get a victory; and to draw them to the field, than to give them a defeat.

DOUBTLESS theſe needy gentlemen will never tempt the admiration of wiſe men upon any other ſcore, than that of the greatneſs of their folly. They muſt be thought ſtrangely neceſſitous of meriting qualities, that do ſo meanly by their bad ones implore and court men's good opinion: and I know not whether be the greater, their impudence to expect it for the recompence of vice, or their profuſeneſs, that ſhould ſquander it away on thoſe who have no juſter title to our eſteem, than that by which the miſerableſt of beggars pretend to our charity, the multitude of their imperfections and wants. Wiſe men will make theſe poor and empty projects the objects ſolely of their ſcorn and laughter; and only thoſe that want eſteem for themſelves, will reward you with it; and for ſuch peoples praiſes, they will but diſcommend you: ſo that that empty applauſe you are ambitious of, will either be impoſſible to be purchaſed, or not deſerve to be purſued. But what, your oaths will make men take you for a gentleman! You are deceived; there is too little *Epicuriſm* and chargeableneſs in your vice, to be affected to that quality. It was ſtill ſo cheap, and now grown ſo common, that I wonder our grandees, though they deſiſt not for the ſin's ſake, renounce it not at leaſt for the company's. Muſt then vices be arguments of the poſſeſſion of that dignity, that virtue is the ſole true means to purchaſe? I am ſure it ſhould not be ſo: but grant it were, will you pretend to nobility by that alone which is not the property, but the vice of gentlemen? and entitle yourſelf to that illuſtrious quality by that, which, in God's eye, makes them unworthy, if not diveſts them of it? At that rate, your pretenſions would parallel his mirth, who boaſted a deſcent from the firſt *Cæſars*, barely upon his being (like moſt of them) almoſt deformedly hawk-noſed, deriving his intereſt in their blood, only from his ſympathy with their defects.

FOR my part, I muſt confeſs I am not ambitious of thoſe badges of gentility, that Chriſtianity delivers for the ſymptoms of reprobation; nor do I find men deſirous of the gout, though the proverb have appropriated that diſeaſe to rich men.

BUT

But then (you think) your courage will be unqueſtionable: and indeed it may ſeem that you want not probability to prop up your hopes, ſince you deſperately hazard the incurring of immortal torments, for that for which no wiſe man would venture the ſtretching of his little finger. But ſince the kindred betwixt virtues is not ſo remote, that the want of any one ſhould conclude the poſſeſſion of any other, and your impiety convince us of your courage; experience teaches us, that no men more fear what they ſhould contemn, than thoſe that contemn moſt what they ſhould fear. And martyrs have embraced thoſe flames with joy, that impious perſons durſt not ſo much as think off without horror.

That boldneſs that men perſonate againſt their Maker (were it real) would not be the effect of their reſolution, but either of their inconſiderateneſs, or their unbelief. "The wicked flee" (ſays *Solomon*) "when no man purſueth; but the righte- Prov. xxviii. "ous are bold as a lion." And indeed it is no great encouragement to deſpiſe this 1. life, to want either hope, or at leaſt confidence of a better. Nor will all men ſo eaſily conclude, that he that fears not to venture his ſoul, dares freely venture his body. For ſince it is not the eſſential worth of things, but the proprietary's value of them, that their dearneſs to us is to be meaſured by, that ſtandard, and moſt men's actions, will preſent us the ſoul and body in a very inverted order of precedency; the greater part of men living for the body, as if they were all body, and ſlighting their ſouls, as if they had no ſouls, or had them but to loſe: it being but too true of the very greateſt of thoſe people, that in themſelves, as in their ſtables, the employment of the man is but to ſerve the beaſt. And truly he that conſiders, that the neglect of the ſoul proceeds from the former dotage on the body, will think that a very unlikely conſequence, that infers a readineſs to hazard the latter, from the carleſſneſs of what becomes of the former. He that ſhakes off the emboldening fear of God, betrays himſelf to as numerous apprehenſions as did the weak-eyed frantic, who, to be ſecured from the offenſiveneſs of the ſun's brighter beams, by pulling out his eyes, expoſed himſelf to all thoſe dangers and thoſe horrors that attend on blindneſs.

PLEA XIII.

But, ſay ſome ſwearers, if I renounce this vice, my repentance will procure me a deriſion I ſhall be aſhamed of.

Answer. Muſt then that baſhfulneſs, which is both the livery and guard of virtue, oppoſe our addreſſes to it? Like ditches, when the drawbridge is cut down; which, though their uſe be to ſecure the fortreſs from enemies, forbid acceſs to them that once have ſallied, when they are meditating a retreat. But yours is an excuſe as receivable as the whores, who pretended baſhfulneſs for their turning honeſt. I was much taken with an *Italian* gentleman, who ſpying a friend of his peep out his head from behind the door of a *Bordello*, to ſee if he might retire undiſcovered; "Come "forth, come forth, cries he; you need not be aſhamed to leave that ſluttiſh place; "but you ſhould have been aſhamed to have entered it."

Have innocence and vice then ſo changed natures, that he that did not bluſh to commit ſin, ſhould bluſh to forſake it? And he that hath once framed miſſhapen characters, be aſhamed afterwards to write a neater hand? The bluſhes that do wait on our repentance, proceed from an implicit confeſſion it imports of ſome former faultineſs: and ſo if it have been ſhameful to have committed a fault, how much more ſhould we be aſhamed to continue, and how little can it diſcredit us to forſake it? And truly, he that thinks a fault a juſt engagement to a relapſe, leſt his converſion ſhould make him laughed at, deſerves the cenſure men would paſs upon

that

that fool, who having ſlipt one foot into a quagmire, ſhould rather proceed to be entirely bogged, than by timely ſtepping back, to confeſs a miſchance that may provoke men's laughter. I had much rather men ſhould laugh at my retracting, than God frown upon my relapſes; and care not ſo much who ſmiles at any action that makes my conſcience do ſo, (not by way of deriſion, but of applauſe.)

How contradictory are the deſires of mortals! We are angry if we are not thought virtuous, and yet we are aſhamed to appear ſo, and think it a juſt ground of quarrel to be reported the contrary of what we bluſh to ſeem! Like ladies, who though they long to live till they grow old, fret to appear what they deſire to be. The ſinner, that is overmuch concerned in bad men's opinions of good men's actions, does as it
Exod. xxi. 6. were ſwear allegiance to the devil, and let him bore his ear through with an awl, againſt the door-poſt, ſealing an engagement to perpetual bondage; for (as the ſame men that crucified our Saviour derided him) as long as the greateſt part of men are wicked enough to injure piety, there will be found men impudent enough to mock it.

FOR ſinners knowing that, in the world's eſteem, the extent of a deformity makes it vaniſh, and that the generality of a crime does ſo diveſt it of that name, that every body's ſins are thought no body's, are by the cheapneſs of the expedient eaſily ſwayed to intruſt the protection of their reputation rather to common guilt, than to a private virtue; and to ſeek an innocence rather by adding to the number of the wicked, by their calumnies and deriſion, than by increaſing the number of the godly by their converſion. Thus being bribed by their own intereſts, to diſcredit ſuch actions as they are tied to, and yet will not practiſe, it is no wonder, if by ſcoffingly condemning what cloſely condemns them (though therein their conſciences give their tongues the lye) they cunningly endeavour to father their faults, not upon their want of piety, but ſtore of wit; and to make their ſlavery to their paſſions paſs for the ſuperiority of their judgments.

BUT ſure he is very unfit to be Chriſt's ſoldier, that bluſhes to wear his heavenly leader's colours, and wants the courage to diſobey example. He that will take the *Canaan* above by violence, muſt imitate the conqueror of the *Canaan* below, who pro-
Joſh. xxiv. 15. feſt to the world, "If it ſeem evil unto you to ſerve the Lord, chuſe you this day "whom you will ſerve, whether the gods, *&c.* but as for me and my houſe, we will
Matt. v. 11. "ſerve the Lord." Our Saviour (who for us "endured the croſs, deſpiſing the "ſhame") apportions felicity to the being reviled for his ſake: and congruouſly his
Acts v. 14. apoſtles, being cauſeleſsly miſuſed by the chief-prieſts, "departed from the preſence "of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to endure ſhame for his
Job xii. 4. "name." Deriſion for virtue is a grievance old as *Job*, who in his time complained, that "the juſt and upright man is laughed to ſcorn:" and it was even Chriſt's own caſe;
Matt. ix. 23. of whom one of the evangeliſts in ſome place records, that "they laughed him to "ſcorn." But we may ſay of the reſolute Chriſtian, what the wiſe man ſays of his
Prov. iii. 34. Maker, that he "ſcorneth the ſcorners:" and ſurely, ſince God is ſaid to laugh divers tranſgreſſors of his law to ſcorn, it is not improbable that he will not fail to laugh them to ſcorn, that for his glory ſcorn not to be laughed at: eſpecially ſince ſuch perſons are deeply acceſſary to their own and piety's diſgrace, by a ſneakingneſs, which ſo implies a guilt, that where it proceeds not from a fault, it is one; and themſelves highly countenance the diſcountenancers of the profeſſion of religion, by being aſhamed to own it. Whereas the loſs of the blind world's applauſe ſhould prove as little diſſuaſive in the point of converſion, as its acquiſition ſhould be a motive. The man that dares be good without a precedent, looks like the nobleſt precedent of good: though, to ſay truth, as horſes are not much prized only for not refuſing to ſet forth, unleſs others lead the way, and for not leaving the track they are once in, be-

cauſe none but reſty horſes are guilty of the contrary faults; ſo is not the gallantry of contemning the opinions and ſmiles of ſinners ſo meritorious as it is thought; ſince none but children (and they too laughed at for it) will let themſelves be frighted from what they love, by others making mouths and faces at it. Could ſingularity in goodneſs conſiſt with the innocence of others, a gallant ſpirit would look upon that ſolitude rather as a delight than a determent; ſince it is not a greater affliction to his charity, than it is a compliment to his generoſity, by aſſuring his devotion of the higheſt extraction, and reſtraining the acts of it to the nobleſt ends.

HE is the welcomeſt to paradiſe, who ventures though alone, and comes unattended thither; I mean, who by ſo reſolute a bravery as ſetting forward to heaven without ſtaying for company, gives ſo good example, that he arrives there with much difficulty. To all this I muſt add, that when once it is noted, that the apprehenſion of being derided for retracting is the ſole obſtacle that ſtands between your reaſon and ſo important a change as your converſion, they will juſtly eſteem your parvanimity ſo great, that you deſerve deriſion for ſo poorly fearing it; and ſo you will fall into that contempt you would decline, by your very ſhunning of it. If then laughter in this caſe cannot abſolutely on both ſides be avoided, ſure it is much better to endure that of fools at your repentance, than that of wiſe men at your timorouſneſs. Did not martyrs, through frowns, infamy, and torments, force themſelves a paſſage to the ſame heaven you aim at; and will you with ſmiles be frighted from your happineſs? I am aſhamed of it; and if you be not ſo of yourſelf, Chriſt will be ſo of you: for "Who- Mark viii.
"ſoever" (ſays our Saviour, who before *Pontius Pilate* witneſſed a good confeſſion) 33.
"ſhall be aſhamed of me, and of my words, in this adulterous and ſinful generation,
"of him alſo ſhall the Son of man be aſhamed, when he cometh in the glory of his
"Father, with the holy angels." And truly, for my part, I had rather be laughed at by men on earth, than howl with the devils in hell.

DIGRESSION.

[* NOR need we be (as even the beſt new converts often are) ſo ſcrupulous to own repentance, for fear of injuring humility; ſince certainly, if the latter be a virtue, ſhe cannot enjoin a vice ſo heinous as ingratitude, by forbidding us even ſuch a retribution as acknowledgment: for ſure it is the leaſt return we owe to God for his gifts, to confeſs that we have received them. Who would not tax him of unthankfulneſs, that, being loaded with a prince's preſents, ſhould diſclaim them, for fear of confeſſing himſelf to be rich? Although a woman, praiſed for her complexion, be bound in modeſty to gainſay thoſe praiſes, yet if the fire have given her a good colour, it is not thought pride to refrain contradicting, becauſe the effect being natural to the fire, and requiring no excellent prediſpoſitions in the object, to refer thoſe aſcriptions to their cauſe, is held to juſtify the not rejecting them. So though there be an eye of vanity in the publication of thoſe graces, whoſe near reſemblance (or affinity) to virtues merely moral, leaves their extraction dubious; yet true repentance is a grace ſo purely foreign, that being acted in us by a principle not native or acquired, but infuſed, to own the having received it is not to boaſt our merits, but acknowledge our debts; the vanity being rather on the other ſide, who, by pretending to diſclaim ſo ſu-

* The lines included within this parentheſis [ ], may, perhaps, paſs for one, and appear ſomewhat foreign both to the theme and ſtile of this diſcourſe: I have yet ventured to inſert them here, to pleaſe a perſon that I much affect, leaving to the reader a liberty to ſkip them, if he pleaſe; but if he chance to vouchſafe them a peruſal, I muſt beg for them his attention; not that they deſerve it, but becauſe they need it. It ends p. 19.

pernatural a grace, imply that they eſteem it to be their own inheritance or purchaſe. God's goodneſs being ſo free, that it is the only title to its ſelf; and the motives of his favours being taken from himſelf, and not from us, his bleſſings argue, indeed, the bounty of the benefactor, but infer not the merit of the obliged; ſince the Spirit's irraditions into our ſouls (like the ſun's ſhining upon ſhrubs and hemlock) are due to the diffuſiveneſs of his goodneſs, not the attractiveneſs of ours. Moral virtues may, perhaps, be reſembled to great men's clothes, which ſupply thoſe that ſee them, with ſome conjectures of the quality of thoſe that wear them; but inſpired graces (ſuch as repentance is) are like their liveries, whoſe gaudineſs evinces not the footman's deſerts, but his lord's ſplendidneſs, and in men's eſteem entitles the lacquey to nothing but a good maſter. Thoſe better qualities blood may convey, or induſtry acquire, like honours conferred by princes, ſuppoſe the party deſerving; but heavenly donatives are like alms, which ever preſume need; and where they are more liberally beſtowed, ſtronglier conclude the greatneſs of the party's wants than merits.

UPON ſuch conſiderations poſſibly as theſe, the great apoſtle (after a recital of his
1 Cor. xv. 10. firſt unworthineſs) ſcruples not to write of himſelf in ſuch bold terms as theſe: "By "the grace of God I am what I am; and his grace which was beſtowed on me was "not in vain, but I laboured more abundantly than they all," (meaning the college
In an Eſſay of miſtaken Modeſty. of the holy apoſtles) "yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." I might produce many reſembling paſſages of ſcripture, had I not handled this ſubject elſewhere. But truly, ſince you are commanded in the goſpel to "let your light ſo ſhine
Matt. v. 16. "before men, that they may ſee your good works, and glorify your Father which is in "heaven;" you ought to conſider, whether or no your expreſſing a ſerious diſlike of others preſent, and your own former practice (in point of ſwearing) do not either proclaim your repentance, or infer you a hypocrite. And if your reaſon (as queſtionleſs it will) lead you to embrace the affirmative, believe you are then farther to be put in mind, that not only the confeſſion of our virtues is juſtifiable, when it is neceſſary to your juſtification, but (though in all other caſes our actions ſhould commend us, not we ourſelves, praiſe being a debt, which he that pays himſelf, acquits all others of) even the mention of our own praiſes is allowable, when they are produced not to extol, but barely to vindicate us, and finds a ſufficient defence in its being neceſſary unto ours.

THE owning of repentance has ſo much of penance in it, that there is not any grace more indiſpoſed to a perverſion into vanity; for ſtill repentance (like the pardon it endeavours to procure) does preſuppoſe a fault, having this particular unhappineſs above other virtues, that men cannot arrive at it but through vice. And therefore in the return to the diſintereſtedneſs of action, virtue (who can ſcarce more reward our love to her than by imparting unto us a higher degree of it) commonly recompenſeth ſo unſelfiſh a duty, by making it a powerful engagement to perſeverance againſt relapſes; and any affront or loſs ſuſtained upon that ſcore turns to a bleſſing, by producing in us, towards religion, the uſual property of ſufferers for a cauſe, more zeal and paſſion for the party men have been ſufferers for. But admit you could not own repentance without being fancied vain, muſt the fear of others ſins continue (thoſe that are immediately) yours? Will you rather let others ſin, by imitation of your bad actions, than in their miſconſtruction of your good ones? And will you quench the Spirit, and refrain from being virtuous, leſt men ſhould think you know yourſelf to be ſo? Eſpecially ſince our ignorance in good performances, though it criminate the act, degrades the agent from the title of virtuous; virtue being a habitude elective, and election pre-requiring knowledge. Which reaſon I might fortify, by aſking to what end preachers ſhould light us ſo many candles, and give us ſo many touchſtones

to diſcover and examine graces with, if our being conſcious to our own repentance were a fault that deſerved it? Undoubtedly that were (and that were ſtrange) to make it our duty to ſeek what it were our ſin to find.

This laſt reflection I muſt recruit, by adding, that ſince our improvement of, and thankfulneſs for grace, will be expected proportionable to our ſtock of it (as the parable of the talents, and our Saviour's declaring, that "where much is given, there "alſo much will be required," evinces) we cannot, without the knowledge of our receipts, know what our returns muſt be (of gratitude and duty) to be anſwerable to them. The utmoſt that modeſty does exact of you, is the declining of thoſe praiſes your actions do deſerve, not the refraining actions that deſerve praiſe, for fear of being ſuſpected to affect it. But truly baſhfulneſs, though in maids thought a virtue, in virtue is a fault; for ſure it is one of the worſt compliments you can put upon the Spirit, to lock him up in a dungeon for ſhame to own his viſits.

The union betwixt virtues is too ſtrict, and their aſſiſtances reciprocal, that that may be concluded to be no virtue, that forbids the exerciſe of any, and does not rather facilitate than obſtruct it. Certainly it is better be accuſed of vanity, than guilty of relapſes; and if ſome reputation muſt be loſt, it is fitter that you ſhould be diſhonoured by other men's faults, than God by yours; for he is good enough to recompenſe his ſervants, not only for being good, but for their not being thought ſo for his ſake; and to make one day their diſhonour (not only the foil, but) the purchaſe of their glory. I have ſpent the more ink to carry away this obſtruction, becauſe I have obſerved it to be a block, at which the beſt natured novices in piety are the moſt prone to ſtumble; the devil, our ſubtile antagoniſt (more ſerpent far than that he tempted our firſt parents in, when he inſinuated himſelf into our credulous mother's eaſy faith, in which ſly winding creature, he elected not a fitter inſtrument than emblem) in the ſcruple we have laboured to remove, leaving his own to aſſume the borrowed habit of an angel of light; in that diſguiſe to make virtue claſh with grace, and pervert modeſty into an obſtacle of reformation. Thus when man was once fallen from paradiſe, even cherubims intercepted his return unto the Tree of Life.] Gen. iii. 14.

The laſt Excuſe.

Lastly (replies the ſwearer) all this I confeſs to be very true; but what would you have me to do? Long time and cuſtom have ſo habituated me to this vice, that I find the impoſſibility of my ſubduing it, as great as my willingneſs to leave it.

Answer. Well, I am very glad we have brought you to this paſs; it is then confeſſedly a ſin, and a great one: the queſtion therefore is, whether it be fitter for God to make it no ſin, or you not to make it yours; and for him to be reconciled to the evil of its nature, or for you to deſiſt from its practice? Your apology is juſt as excuſing as the murderer's would be, who ſhould alledge before his judge, that ſince he had been a murderer from his youth, he begs to be excuſed; and truly for his part he could not help it, and he muſt needs continue the trade of cutting of throats, that he had ſo long practiſed. Is not yours a holy conſequence, I have been wicked long, therefore I will continue ſo ſtill? Surely it is the devil's logic, from thoſe ſins, that evidence the juſtice of our ſuddener repentance, to infer the legitimateneſs of our relapſes into crimes. The argument would have as much reaſon, and more honeſty, that concludes out of, I have been wicked but too long already, that therefore I muſt be ſo no more; and from our former want of piety, infers there needs a greater meaſure now, to make amends for paſt omiſſions. You would judge him uncharitable,

that ſhould tell you are ſcarce ſo much as deſirous to be forgiven: but (to ſhew you how little you have for your opinion, beſides your wiſhes) conſider who would think that delinquent very ambitious of pardon who refuſes to accept it, unleſs he may have licenſe to thieve again; and declines to purchaſe it by an engagement againſt former miſdemeanors. Certainly,

Weak is th' excuſe that is on cuſtom built;
For th' uſe of ſinning leſſens not the guilt.

AND cuſtom in evil rather increaſes than contracts the fault; for that cuſtom, that now is the parent, was firſt the child of ſin, ſince the evil of cuſtom proceeds from the cuſtom of evil; (like ice, which though it eaſily thaw into water, was firſt produced out of that element's congelation.) And therefore our equitable and impartial laws, that in theft chaſtiſe the firſt faults only with a brand upon the hand or ſhoulder, puniſh relapſes with deſerved death.

NOR are the obſtacles that oppoſe your cure, ſo ſtubborn as you are pleaſed to fancy them. We flatter ourſelves in augmenting the difficulty of our repentance, that we may leſſen the guilt of our neglects. The truth of it is, our baſeneſs adds dimenſions to theſe difficulties, becauſe we are really loth to forſake our ſins; and yet would fain cheat our conſciences into a belief, that our refractorineſs and impenitency do proceed not from our unwillingneſs to mend, but from our impotence. We do not, in this caſe, like many flouriſhing orators, who out of oſtentation uſe to create monſters, afterwards to quell them; but like children in the dark, who fancy firſt horrid miſhapen bugbears, and then are frighted by them.

AND yet when the ſlight penalty of a ſhilling is laid upon each oath, and ſtrictly exacted, we may eaſily diſcern a viſible abatement in the tale of your ſins, as long as you are true to your engagement; which were not moſt men too ſoon weary of, would (probably) ſoon make them weary of offences of that nature.

IT is the opinion both of pious and of judicious perſons, that ſwearing is therefore, though not the moſt unpardonable, at leaſt the moſt inexcuſable of vices, becauſe that in it men have moſt power to refrain: and in effect this ſin is ſo deſtitute both of temptations, advantages, and apologies, that in ſubduing the cuſtom of ſwearing, we have ſcarce any thing but the cuſtom to ſubdue. Try; it is leſs eaſy to ſurmount the belief of the difficulty, than the difficulty itſelf, which nothing makes ſo much invincible, as our thinking that it is ſo.

HERE a willingneſs to hoiſt ſail (to quit this ruinous vice) ſerves for a proſperous gale. If therefore Chriſt, by giving you a deſire to ſhake off the clogging yoke of ſin, do call you to himſelf, give me leave to ſay to you, as the people did to the blind man
Mark x. 49. of *Jericho*, "Be of good comfort, riſe, he calleth thee." And to compleat that comfort I muſt tell you, that the operation of ſaving grace upon the ſickneſſes of the ſoul,
John v. 2, 3, 4. is like that of the pool of *Bethesda* upon the infirmities of the body; ſince without all regard either to the age or greatneſs of the diſeaſe, ſo the remedy be but duly applied, the cure is infallible.

I SHALL never deſpair of the recovery of any, that is but heartily deſirous to be reclaimed; ſince that, which God was pleaſed to make me lately inſtrumental to work upon a gentleman, whoſe nation being *French*, his vice little younger than himſelf, humour extreme choleric, and his apprehenſions of the ſucceſſleſſneſs of his endeavours very great, obliged him to vanquiſh indiſpoſitions numerous and great enough to make that concurrence very frequent in one ſingle perſon; and yet before one fortnight was effluxed, he obtained ſo viſible a conqueſt over this ſtubborn vice, that he had afterwards

wards only as many relicks of it to ſuppreſs, as might keep him from growing proud of ſo ſudden a recovery.

So eaſy is it, after having vanquiſhed the imagination of the difficulty, to overcome the difficulty itſelf: for in matter of uneaſy Chriſtian duties, we muſt not only conſider the diſproportion of our weakneſſes to the obſtacles we muſt ſurmount, but allow the diſproportion of thoſe obſtacles to the ſupernatural aſſiſtances we ought to hope for. For God requires nothing at our hands, which his own favour (zealouſly implored by our addreſſes) will not enable us to execute. And in this the commands of God differ from thoſe of men, that the latter but lay on us an obligation, the former inveſt us with a power to obey them. As when our Saviour commanded the ſick man (in the goſpel) to "take up his bed and walk," at the ſame inſtant he ſtrengthens his ſinews to perform what he enjoined: and in the firſt creation, that powerful command, "Let there be light," gave that bright creature an exiſtence, to make it capable of paying him an obedience. Let not then taſks above the forces of our nature, diſanimate thoſe that may expect aſſiſtances from his Almightineſs, who in the ſame leaves, where he commands us to perform more than we are able, promiſes to do in us what he commands; ſince difficulties are not eſſential properties of obſtacles, but only diſproportions to the powers they are to reſiſt. But admit that your habitude of ſwearing have rendered your converſion as difficult as you pretend; ſure then that, which cuſtom of ſinning has confeſſedly made ſo uneaſy, the continuance of that cuſtom is very unlikely to facilitate: as probably may he, whom a ſurfeit of melons has caſt into a fever, hope for a cure by eating more again. No, no; remember that bad cuſtoms, like conſumptions, admit of remedies in the beginning, but grow ſtill more incurable by delays; and vices, like young trees, the longer they are let grow, the greater difficulty there is in felling of them; each ſingle ſin being not bad only for the evil of the act, but the propenſity it gives to repetition.

Mark ii. 9, 12.

Gen. i. 3.

SECT. II.

BUT becauſe to ſhew a ſinner the danger of his diſeaſe, without preſcribing him the remedies that may contribute to his recovery, would be but to give him a perfecter knowledge of his wretchedneſs, and prove a truth as uncomfortable to him, as an *ignis fatuus* to the benighted traveller that has loſt his way, whoſe horrid light ſerves not to guide, but to affright the wanderer; I think it not amiſs in the enſuing directions to caſt the ſwearer a few cords, by which (if they be carefully laid hold on) he may happily be drawn out of that deep and dangerous pit of ſin, into which his negligence or his corruptions may have betrayed him. Nor let the coarſeneſs of theſe home-ſpun lines divert you from making them inſtruments of your reſcue; for ſilk and ſattin ribbons, you know, are not ſo proper to draw men out of pits as homely hempen cords: nor did the impriſoned prophet refuſe to be drawn up out of the dungeon, though by the help of "old caſt clouts and rags:" ſince in caſes of this nature, it is not the value nor the fineneſs of the inſtrument, but their fitneſs for our purpoſes, that we ought chiefly to regard. But to begin without more circumſtance.

Jer. xxviii. 11, 12, 13.

DIRECT. I.

MY firſt advice ſhall be, ſeriouſly to conſider that ſwearing is a ſin, and ſuch a ſin too, as not its nature, but commonneſs only, makes men count little: for if we may judge of the greatneſs of the crime, by that of the vengeance heaven inflicteth on it, certainly God has divers times ſo ſeverely puniſhed obdurate and incorrigible

ſwearers,

ſwearers, that were his judgments on them as divulged as they have been terrible, that crying ſin would (poſſibly) be almoſt as unfrequent as it ought to be. Nor will the ſeeming harmleſſneſs of that act do more than make a parallel betwixt your fate, and that fond wretch's (mentioned in the book of *Numbers*) that provoked ſtoning for gathering a few ſticks on the ſabbath-day. For though Almighty God (whoſe will is the exacteſt rule of good and ill) ſhould forbid actions otherwiſe innocent, yet his prohibition diveſts them from that property; and (as the preceding verſes of that paſſage alledged of *Numbers* intimate) makes you liable to a juſt puniſhment, though not for the act, yet for the diſobedience. And conſonantly we find, that though the killing of ſo horrid and parricidicial a murderer as *Cain* might ſeem an act of juſtice, yet God by his prohibition having rendered it a ſin, annexes a ſeven-fold vengeance to the breach of that command.

Numb. xv. 32.

Gen. iv. 15.

NAY, though the rebuilding of a ruined city be in itſelf not only innocent, but highly conducing to the public good, yet God (to ſhew the independency of his juſtice) having forbidden the re-edification of *Jericho*'s razed walls, puniſhed the tranſgreſſion of that prophetic order, in the very children of the tranſgreſſor. An example of ſeverity very obſervable, being not, that I know of, to be paralleled. Conſider not therefore ſo much (in your ſwearing) the little harm you do, as the great God you offend. Falſe coinage is as well felony in farthings, as in half-crowns or twenty ſhilling-pieces. And as careful mothers ſoundlier whip their children for eating ſour crabs, and ſuch green traſh, than ripe and goodly fruit, ſo often are thoſe ſins moſt ſeverely dealt with which bring us leaſt advantage; nor is it a prodigy to ſee men get moſt ſtripes for thoſe offences they get leaſt by.

Joſh. vi. 26.

1 Kings xvi. 34.

IT is an eaſy matter in trivial things to tranſgreſs heinouſly. What trifle could appear ſlighter than the eating of an apple? Yet this petty ſeeming peccadillo loſt *Adam* paradiſe, and us a title to it; God's interdict enabling the core of that forbidden fruit to choak his immortality, and his poſterity's hopes of it upon earth. But I purpoſely decline all inſtances of this nature, not only in purſuance of my intended brevity, but becauſe it is much nobler, and more handſome for you, to owe your repentance to your reaſon than to your apprehenſion.

DIRECT. II.

IN the next place, I ſhall preſcribe a zealous and inceſſant ſolicitation at the throne of grace, for power to ſubdue this ſtubborn vice. This ſecond advice St. *James* ſeems to ſuggeſt to us in theſe words: "Reſiſt the devil, and he will flee from you;" and he immediately adds theſe, "Draw nigh unto God, and he will draw nigh unto you." And truly men preſume too much, when they imagine thoſe treacherous natural forces of their own are able to redeem that ſpiritual liberty, they were unable to defend; and then they loſe their beſt advantages, when their omiſſions of applying themſelves to their Maker, makes them neglect ſupplies infallibly victorious, which wait but the imploring to advance to their reſcue. Ceaſe not then, with *Moſes*, to lift up your hands to heaven, till you have thereby diſcomfited and deſtroyed theſe ſpiritual *Amalekites*, your vices: and believe it, prayer (to uſe a term of phyſic) is a ſpecific remedy againſt this diſeaſe, and deſerves that, among all the weapons proper for this warfare, you ſhould ſay that of it that *David* ſaid of huge *Goliah*'s ſword, "There is none like that, give it me."

James iv. 7, 8.

Exod. xiii. 11, &c.

1 Sam. xxi. 9.

FOR prayer, performed with thoſe due rites its object requires from it, gives us ſuch awful ſentiments of God's holy name, that our conſcience will not, in a ſhort while after, permit us to diſpenſe with the uſurping it in vain. And thus this ſacred

duty

duty does not only procure, but in a manner give us, what we pray for: as, when ſome ſqueamiſh and diſreliſhed perſon takes a long walk to the phyſician's lodging, to beg ſome remedy for his inappetence, his very walking thither does, in ſome meaſure, give him that good ſtomach he hopes to regain by the medicines he ſhall get there.

BUT if, in your firſt attempts, this ſin meet with a ſucceſs more anſwerable to your fears than your deſires, be not diſcouraged at it, but make of this delay the uſe it is intended for, a riſe of greater eagerneſs and importunity in the purſuit of your addreſſes. Nor think it ſtrange, that God ſhould make you wait a while for the grant of your requeſts, that have been ſo tediouſly refractory to the motions of his Spirit, that ſummoned your obedience to his commands. But loſe not patience, for the wiſhed ſupply will infallibly arrive at laſt, and all your expectation will but ſerve to endear it when received; for God will not be wanting with his power to aſſiſt, what is undertaken only for his glory.

NOR is it leſs our duty to truſt in his promiſes, than to obey his commands; and we may confidently expect from his faithfulneſs to the one, what he will enable our endeavours to perform the other. The great apoſtle tells us, that the ſame God will give us "to will, that worketh in us to do:" and therefore you may be confident, Phil. ii. 13. that (as he elſewhere ſpeaks) "he, which hath begun a good work in you, will per- & i. 6. "form it unto the day of Jeſus Chriſt." And on this ſcore our Saviour, who entails happineſs only to the godly, does yet pronounce them "bleſſed that hunger and Matt. v. 6. "thirſt after righteouſneſs," promiſing that they ſhall be ſatisfied. Thus he, that graciouſly "accepts the will for the deed," counts good deſires but infant holineſs, as things that differ from more perfect graces, not in their nature, but their (age and) growth.

IN the mean time, let this conſideration comfort you, that thoſe ſins diſpleaſe God leaſt, that diſpleaſe the doer moſt; and that in this our combats againſt ſins are differenced from our battles amongſt men, that in the former the victory depends not ſo much on our ſucceſs as our reſiſtance; ſince none are there held vanquiſhed but ſubmitters: and, for your farther comfort, you may take each victory grace wins of your corruptions, not only for a preparative to new ones, but an earneſt of more. For the conqueſts of ſaving grace in the ſoul are not like thoſe the ſea makes upon the ſtrand, when it makes acquiſitions by the flow, but to loſe them again within few hours by the ebb; but the expeditions of the Spirit againſt vices, are like thoſe of the crowned rider of the white horſe in the *Revelation*, of whom it is ſaid, "that he went forth Rev. vi. 2. "conquering, and to conquer."

DIRECT. I.

IN the next place, as far as conveniency will permit, it were fit to fly the converſation, or at leaſt the familiarity, of profeſt ſwearers. This advice of declining infectious company, though in a general caution ever found prevalent againſt all vices, has a peculiar property againſt this: for there being very ſmall (if any) temptation to it in our natures, it is principally imitated from others (as when one yawns, moſt of the company, though otherwiſe uninclined to that act, do uſually yawn out of ſympathy) and ſo ſubſiſts but as it is cheriſhed by example and cuſtom (its motive and its nurſe.) And therefore a very effectual remedy againſt ſwearing is, by converſing where it is diſcountenanced; to ſtarve it by diſcontinuance, forcing that ſhame of ſingularity, that firſt begot it, to make amends for the miſchief it has occaſioned, by employing it to the ruin of its own productions: as phyſicians make ſcorpions their own antidote, by preparing out of them an oil, that is ſovereign againſt their ſtings.

Lovers

Lovers of the ſame ſin may (methinks) be reſembled unto firebrands, which, being laid together, kindle each other by their mutual heat; but being ſevered, and kept ſo aſunder, each ſingle brand, after a little ſmoking, does of itſelf go out.

DIRECT. IV.

FOR the fourth remedy, I ſhould adviſe the ſwearer to oblige himſelf to pay or ſuffer ſomewhat for every oath he ſwears; thoſe little forfeitures ſerving both as monitors and as penalties. But if the bargain tie you to pecuniary diſburſements, be ſure diſtreſſed Chriſtians be (at leaſt) ſharers in them. For if (as divines tell us) the poor be God's receivers, they ſeem to have a title, as well by juſtice as by charity, to the amerciaments that are eſtreated upon treſpaſſes againſt their Lord. But have a care you turn not this phyſic into poiſon, by imagining that, when you have fined for your engagements, you have done penance for your ſins; and, by your juſtice to your compacts, cancelled your diſobedience to your Maker. No, no, God requires not that you ſhould part with your ſix-pences, but with your ſins; and the repentance he accepts, conſiſts not in a paying for, but in forſaking, your tranſgreſſions. Eſteem then theſe inconſiderable mulcts but as remembrancers of your faults, not ſatisfaction for them.

ALLIED to this expedient, is that uſeful one of procuring ſome diſcreet friend, by putting you in mind of every oath, to force you to take notice of your faults; which this courſe will very much contribute to make you both weary and aſhamed of: provided always, that theſe reprehenſions be as well ſeaſonable as juſt; for to correct men in the firſt violent tranſports of their choler, is, by adminiſtering phyſic in the extremity of the fit, but to exaſperate inſtead of curing. Reaſon being to our paſſions as the wind to the fires, the ſame puff that will blow out the flames of a candle, will but kindle thoſe that prey upon a faggot. Reprehenſions may ſuppreſs paſſions when they are weak, but do but incenſe them whilſt they are raging. It is liſted amongſt the miracles of Chriſt, that he once chid a ſtorm into a calm.

Matt. viii. 26.

DIRECT. V.

THE fifth thing that I muſt preſcribe our ſwearer is, to reſolve at once to renounce that vice, by a deſertion not only ſincere, but unſuſpended and entire. Were it but one of theſe mere moral failings, whoſe unfitneſs or miſbecomingneſs makes all the guilt, I ſhould, poſſibly, counſel you to wean yourſelf of it by degrees, whoſe progreſs were ſcarce diſcernible before its end; juſt as phyſicians uſe to reclaim thoſe, that have been long accuſtomed to unwholeſome diet. But as the ſame phyſicians, when once a dangerous ſurfeit is contracted, reſtrain not by degrees, but totally and abruptly, thoſe exceſſes that occaſioned it, and whoſe continuance would prove fatal to the patient; ſo here, where that which is to be forſaken is not ſo properly a fault as a ſin, we muſt refrain, without the leaſt exception or connivance; ſince elſe (the thing prohibited being in itſelf a ſin) we allow ourſelves to offend God as much as ever, though not ſo often, by committing the ſame ſins in quality, however not in multitude.

INDEED, what is leſſened by the number of our oaths in this partial reformation, is recompenſed by the aggravated heinouſneſs of their nature; thoſe that ſeemed formerly but the ſlips of infirmity, being now authoriſed by diſpenſation. This bare abatement of the tale of our ſins is a good refuge, but a bad deſign: many times this diminution is the utmoſt our endeavours can arrive at; but then it ought to be practiſed, and not to be intended; for true repentance, and a purpoſe of relapſing, are

hugely

hugely inconſiſtent, the one not being real, without a property deſtructive to the other; ſince he but very lamely repents his crimes, that reſolves not againſt relapſes into the crimes that he repents. No, no; this faint deſiſting from ſome acts of vice, does but endear the reſt that is unexiled, and that importunately urge for the recalling of their baniſhed companions. This mild remiſſneſs, if it do not prune a vice, at leaſt it does but lop it, and that prohibits not its future growth; which the only way infallibly to prevent is, to dig it up by the roots, with the ſpade of an abſolute and irrevocable reſolve never to accord to ourſelves, ſo much as by connivance, the leaſt licence that may endanger a relapſe. In this caſe, extirpation is that alone which can ſecure our quiet; and the only way that leads to an eſtabliſhed ſafety, is a ſeverity that its object ſecures from all poſſibility of exceſſes. A ſinner's condition may be reſembled to a mouſe in a pail of water; if ſhe can get out at one leap, well and good, otherwiſe her toil will prove but fruitleſs, in attempting to get out by degrees.

DIRECT. VI.

Lastly, my concluding precept is, to make frequent and ſerious reflections upon the vanity and fooliſhneſs of ſwearers, who live as if they meant to remove all our wonder from the folly of our firſt parents, who loſt paradiſe for an apple. Sure, that theſe people are not quartered in *Bedlam* (where far leſs frenzies have impriſoned many) proceeds rather from the multitude of the infatuated, than any want of madneſs in their actions: but, howſoever, wiſe men build cages for them in their opinions, and, in their ſoberer thoughts, condemn them to inhabit thoſe frantic lodgings.

That uſual expreſſion of ſcripture, which ſometimes puts the word folly inſtead of the word ſin, ſeems chiefly calculated for the ſwearer's vice, to which it does ſo eminently belong, and which is ſo uncapable of being wronged by the appellation. Gen. xxxiv. 7. Joſh. vii. 15. Judges xx. 6.

But, to what has already been delivered, to ſhew how little ſhelter our ſwearers find from all their weak apologies (as certainly, the fruitleſſneſs and inexcuſableneſs of their vice conſidered, almoſt no ſinners have more to anſwer for, and leſs to anſwer) we muſt now add, that they want not only the temptation of an excuſe, but the very excuſe of a temptation, unleſs its being forbidden paſs for one. For, firſt, this mungrel iſſue cannot (as other vices uſe to be) be laid at nature's door; we cannot father it upon traduction, ſince we inherit it not from our parents; nor is it born with us, but learned by us: ſo that here, before we can be ſinners, we muſt have been diſciples. But then all other vices have either honour (as ambition) or profit (as avarice) or delight (as uncleanneſs) to plead for their excuſe; ſwearing alone can plead nothing but guilty: ſo that if ever that expreſſion of the apoſtle, which mentions "ſuperfluity of naughtineſs," belonged to any ſin, it is certainly here to be appropriated. James i. 21.

The ſilly *Indians*, that part with gold and jewels for glaſſes, whiſtles, and ſuch trifling gewgaws, are *Solomons* to ſwearers; betwixt whoſe madneſs and the famed folly of *Lyſimachus*, who, parched with extreme thirſt, to get a little drink became a voluntary priſoner to his (ſoon after vanquiſhed) enemies, I find no diſparity advantageous to ſwearers; it being a leſs ill bargain to ſell away one's liberty for one's belly-full of water, than to ſell away one's ſoul for a mouthful of air. This ſwearing is a hook without a bait: and when hell employed its ſpurious brood of vices into the world to ſeduce mankind, it furniſhed every one of them with a dowry, either of fame, of pleaſure, or advantage, to entice lovers with; only poor ſwearing was left portionleſs, a miſtreſs only for thoſe generous and diſintereſted ſinners, that need no temptation; but loving wickedneſs (as they ought to do virtue) for its own ſake alone, aimed

at nothing in the act of ſin, beyond the ſatisfaction of having committed it. To whom the Lord may juſtly ſay, as he did to the *Iſraelites* in the prophet, "You have "ſold yourſelves for nought." For whereas, uſually, thoſe vices that rifle the ſoul do bribe the ſenſes; in ſwearing, the poor ſoul is ſtript of her graces, and robbed of her joys, without the leaſt emolument (of pleaſure or advantage) accruing to the ſenſes. This ſwearing (in my opinion) is even as fooliſh as loving a cruel miſtreſs; a man parts with his heart, and gets nothing in exchange for it. An oath is like the powder that charges a granado; its properties are to make a momentary, diſpleaſing noiſe, to offend thoſe that are within the reach of it, and to ſpoil that from which it parts. Nor is that criminal blaſt unlike the prophet's deſcription of the cankerworm, of which he gives this character, that "it ſpoileth, and fleeth away."

Iſa. lii. 3.

Nahum iii. 16.

BUT the leſs advantages this vice affords, the more culpable it is; the diſobedience, as well as folly of a forbidden act, being increaſed by the want of its being beneficial, he that treſpaſſes for leaſt, tranſgreſſes moſt; for ſure it is rather an aggravation, than an excuſe of having injured any body, that you get nothing by it. The ambitious and the incontinent are like great ladies, that ſurfeit upon apricots, nectarines, and melons; whereas the ſwearer is but too juſtly reſembled to thoſe beggars that kill themſelves with blackberries and ſloes, and ſuch like traſh, the excrements of hedges; having appetites as ridiculouſly noxious as thoſe of ſome of our green-ſickneſs girls, whoſe ſtomachs riſe at dainties, and long for loam and charcoal.

FOR my part, would I renounce my intereſt in virtue, it ſhould be for the attaining of a ſcepter, a fame tranſcending *Cæſar*'s; and, in a word, where the happineſs I forfeited ſhould ſeem ſo recompenſed by that I gained by loſing it, that wiſe men themſelves ſhould have occaſion rather to compaſſionate my frailty, than admire my weakneſs: for, I confeſs, it would extremely trouble me to hang for my thirteen-pence-half-penny; and I am confident, that many of thoſe this ſenſeleſs vice has damned, do find a vaſt acceſſion to the pains of hell itſelf, in the conſideration of the cauſe of their enduring them.

SINCE then ſwearing is a vice ſo ill qualified, that you want a temptation to it, you find no pleaſure in it, nor do derive any advantage from it; O let not your obſtinacy to doat upon an empty, fleeting ſound, that has nothing in it of a ſin except the guilt, hinder you from ſhunning torments, that will equal your wretchedneſs to your folly, and from keeping up a title unto joys, whoſe very hope tranſcends all earthly happineſs, by oppoſing all your paſt unneceſſary oaths by one inviolable promiſſary one, never to ſwear needleſsly again.

ADVERTISEMENT.

TO prevent all miſtakes that may ariſe from ſome apprehenſions of mine, which (ſeeming to cenſure oaths without diſtinction) may poſſibly be ſtretched beyond my meaning, I thought myſelf obliged to declare, that in no part of this diſcourſe my intention was to juſtify that plauſible error of our modern *Anabaptiſts*, that indiſcriminately condemn all oaths as abſolutely and indiſpenſably prohibited and aboliſhed by the goſpel; my deſign being only to reſtrain the needleſs abuſe, not interdict the neceſſary uſe of ſwearing. Whoſe criminouſneſs if not in this diſcourſe I have repreſented in its moſt enlarged dimenſions, I may find an excuſe in the precedent and practice of thoſe painters, who being to draw upon the concaves of the roofs of churches, make their pictures more gigantic than the originals they are to reſemble; to recompenſe by that advantage in the dimenſions, what the eye loſes by the

diſtance

diſtance from the object. For every ſinner naturally beholding vice, upon which he doats, through the contracting optic of ſelf-love, muſt have the idea of his crime enlarged beyond its true proportions, to make him ſee it in its juſt quantity. I might add, that it is ſcarce poſſible to paint this ugly negro in blacker colours than his own; eſpecially ſince now this is grown ſo much in faſhion, that it expects not (as moſt other vices) ſlow time or years to ripen it; ſince in our very ſtreets we hourly hear children (who ſure offer up oaths as the firſt-fruits to the devil) ſwear, that can ſcarcely ſpeak; and ſee them perfect in their father's language, before they are old enough to ſpeak their mother-tongue.

But though in the heinous properties of this vice I might find cauſe enough to juſtify more fierceneſs than I have expreſt againſt it, yet ſhould I be extremely loth, with many much better ſtored with zeal than charity, to doom all thoſe to hell that through frailty or temptation ſometimes let ſlip an oath. For ſo ſevere a ſentence may perhaps concern too many, whoſe addictedneſs to other, not to greater ſins than ours, makes often all the difference of our guilts; and who, in ſpite of all their ſlips and ſtumbles by the way, may by repentance arrive ſafe at the heavenly *Canaan*: and therefore I ſhall conclude what has been ſaid of ſwearing with this ſenſe of it, that it is a ſin too heinous to excuſe neglect, and too venial (if I may ſo ſpeak) juſtly to beget deſpair.

A

DISSUASIVE from CURSING.

From Mr. *W. D.* to Sir *G. L.*

I HAVE too much paſſion for your perſon, to have any complaiſance for your faults; and ſtill have loved you at ſo high a rate, that I had rather hazard the loſs of your affection, than decline any proofs of the reality of mine. It is not that I am not as unwilling to employ cenſure, as I am confident you will be troubled to have neceſſitated it from me; but (all conſidered) I have too much friendſhip to have courtſhip enough to let ſlip ſo fair an opportunity as your forced converſation with *Cleander*, to ſhew you in him the deformity of a vice, from which I wiſh you were as free as from all other crimes.

Certainly, if curſes were as much the badges of a gentleman as he thinks them, men would not gueſs him to be of a lower order than that of emperors: and if the devil were to fetch all thoſe he bids him take, his water-dog would not have half ſo buſy an employment, hell would have cauſe to praiſe his liberality, and, were not Satan ſtill the father of lies, he could not but acknowledge that none of the ſeven deadly ſins (nor perhaps all together) ſent thither half ſo many. If I thought *Cleander* would take it for a diſſuaſion that I proved curſing to be a ſin, I could be as ready to bring prohibitions of it out of ſcripture, as he is to tranſgreſs them. The prophet *David* (imitated by the apoſtle *Paul*) makes it the character of the wicked, that "his mouth is full of curſing." And in another place, that "they curſe inwardly." And ſuitably to his own doctrine, when *Shimei* (equalling his curſes to the number of his ſteps)

Pſal. x. 7. Rom. iii. 14. Pſal. lxii. 4. 2 Sam. xvi. 5. & 13.

ſteps) railed at him with as many imprecations as he deſerved bleſſings, he did not
1 Pet. iii. 9. (to ſpeak St. *Peter*'s language) render "evil for evil, or railing for railing," but
2 Sam. xvi. 11, 12. only anſwers, "Let him curſe, it may be the Lord will look upon mine affliction, "and that the Lord will requite me good for his curſing this day." Our Saviour
Matt. v. 44. commands us to bleſs even "thoſe that curſe us; nay, bleſs them that perſecute you."
Rom. xii. 14. "Bleſs," ſays St. *Paul*, "and curſe not." And to ſhew you that it was not only his
1 Cor. iv. 12, 13. precept but his practice, "being reviled," ſays he, "we bleſs; being perſecuted we "ſuffer it; being defamed we intreat." Imagine then you hear the apoſtle ſaying,
1 Cor. xi. 1. as in one place he does, "Be ye followers of me, as I alſo am of Chriſt;" "who,"
1 Pet. ii. 23. ſays another apoſtle, "when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he ſuffered he "threatned not, but committed himſelf to him that judgeth righteouſly." And in
Luke ix. 54, 55. effect, when upon the *Samaritan* clown's refuſal to receive Chriſt, the two fiery-ſpirited diſciples deſired leave to call down fire from heaven (to conſume thoſe by the fury of that active element, who refuſed entertainment to him that created it) our Saviour anſwers, but with a rebuke, and telling them that they "knew not what manner of ſpi- "rit they were of."

IF then, in ſpite of provocations, we are enjoined to return prayers for maledictions, ſure we, that are forbidden to retribute curſes, are much more prohibited to laviſh them. And if we will take the pains to ſhrive, and to look back into their pedigree, we may diſcern in them a hereditary guiltineſs, and ſhall find them ſinful (if I may ſo ſpeak) by traduction, they being but the emanations and fallies of a tem-
John xiii. 35. per extremely unconſonant to Chriſtianity; of which our Saviour makes "love"
1 Tim. i. 5. the diſtinguiſhing ſignature: and St. *Paul* tells us, that "the end of the command-
1 Cor. xiii. 4, &c. "ment is charity." Of which in another place he gives this character, that "cha- "rity ſuffereth long, and is kind; doth not behave itſelf unſeemly, beareth all things, "is not eaſily provoked;" with many other properties of the ſame nature. Inſomuch,
1 John iv. 20. that St. *John* ſcruples not to affirm, that "if a man ſay I love God, and hateth his "brother, he is a liar;" (as concorporating things inconſiſtent, and uniting things diſtanter than the two poles of heaven:) and therefore when St. *James*, ſpeaking of the
James iii. 9, 10. tongue with a certain kind of wonder, in theſe terms, "Therewith bleſs we God, "even the Father; and therewith curſe we men, that are made after the ſimilitude "of God: out of the ſame mouth proceedeth bleſſing and curſing;" he adds, "My "brethren, theſe things ought not ſo to be." And ſurely too the goſpel teaches us, that theſe aſſaſſinates and murderers of the heart, for being bloodleſs, are not therefore guiltleſs.

BUT granting this ſin to be as venial as indeed it is heinous (and that by uſing curſes men do not merit them) yet certainly the multitude of *Cleander*'s faults would give them that danger, that is pretended to be wanting to their nature; and he that conſiders that thoſe little drops of rain, which ſingle ſeem but ſo many liquid atoms, do often (united by their confluence) ſwell into torrents, nay (ſometimes) ſwell into deluges, will eaſily believe that curſes cannot but be extremely criminal in that *Cleander*,
Deut. xi. 29. that curſes as if he were an inhabitant of mount *Ebal*, and who is ſo reſolved not to keep the devil's counſel, by concealing any impious ſuggeſtions, that were but his prayers as frequent as his curſes, he would ſeem to obey literally that qualified injunction of
1 Theſſ. v. 17. the apoſtle, of "praying without ceaſing."

I MIGHT add, that in moſt of theſe imprecations God's ſacred name being clearly taken in vain, renders theſe *Ebalites* guilty of the breach as well of the ſecond commandment of the firſt, as of the great commandment of the ſecond table, unleſs they will juſtify themſelves from that crime by the owning of a worſe, I mean, demon-

ſtrate

ſtrate that they did not employ God's name to no purpoſe, by confeſſing that they employed it to a bad one.

And now this laſt conſideration leads me to that of the unreaſonableneſs of curſing; for it is not a fit thing that, upon every little accident that *Cleander*'s vexed at, the creatures of God muſt inſtantly change maſters, and devolve to the devil. Were it not very juſt, that God ſhould be the executioner of all the raſh decrees his pettiſh paſſion makes; and his Creator's power ſhould have no other employment, but to run on errands (at the moody gentleman's beck) often repugnant to his juſtice, and ever to his mercy?

Nay, how often has *Cleander* in his paſſion wiſhed things, whoſe accompliſhment himſelf confeſſes would have made him miſerable? And is it then either the part of a good man to make wiſhes that are unlawful, or for a wiſe man to frame deſires, of which he need repent the grant? One imprecation amongſt the reſt *Cleander*'s very ready in, which (with as little caution as he commonly obſerves) I would not have pronounced for as many kingdoms as he has uſed it times, and that is, "the devil "take me." For ſure ſhould God (as we are ſure he may, and know not but that he will) give the devil leave to take him at his word, in what a caſe were he? And what curb ſhall we henceforward think ſtrong enough to bridle his corruption, when what to the wickedeſt is the greateſt terror, he makes his wiſh?

There was ſome years ago in *Geneva* an *Italian* (both by extraction and humour) who riding a handſome mare in a ſolitary angle, was by the devil ſeduced to ſtallion her himſelf. The fact once done, the horror of a crime that made him more a beaſt than that on which he acted it, tranſported him ſo far, as to make him give himſelf to the devil if ever after he relapſed; but ſome while after, forgetting both his conſcience and the condition of his vow, he was fatally tempted to repeat his former beaſtlineſs, in the ſelf-ſame place; which he had ſcarce compleated before the devil, appearing to him viſibly, remembers him of his forgotten promiſe, and claims the forfeiture. The trembling wretch, to avoid the being hurried away inſtantly from the hell he felt, to that he feared, compounds with the devil to reſign him his ſoul at the expiration of a limited reprieve: but before that time came to be effluxed, it pleaſed God to viſit both himſelf and the place of his reſidence with the plague; which rouzing his feared and lethargic conſcience, forced him to expreſſions of his anguiſh, unuſual enough to make his companions inquiſitive into the cauſe; which having fully and circumſtantially confeſt, he was after his recovery, upon that evidence, accuſed of having carnally abuſed a beaſt, and having made a compact with the devil; which latter, though upon a repentance ſuitable to his ſin, God's mercy did diſannul, yet the juſtice of the magiſtrate did, for the former crime, condemn him to a death he richly had deſerved, and penitently endured. This ſtory I thought not impertinent to inſtance in, to teach us how dangerous and unſafe it is to preſent that to the devil, for which Chriſt ſhed his blood; and (with more wearineſs than *Celander* can pretend to) to offer that to one that is greedy to ſnatch (and therefore ſurely willing to accept) that which the whole buſineſs of religion is to defend and reſcue from his attempts. The ſtory itſelf may teach us, that though we are never to deſpair of God's mercy, we are as ſeldom to provoke his juſtice. I have given it you in the very words of our friend Mr. *Boyle*, who had it upon the place, from an excellent divine of that republic, to whom the delinquent himſelf confeſt it, as to him that was aſſigned to comfort and aſſiſt him at his death. And the inſtances are not unfrequent in the moſt credited authors, of thoſe whoſe imprecations God has puniſhed by granting them.

But I had almoſt forgot to mention one opportunity, to which the devil is indebted for a vaſt number of *Cleander*'s curſes, and that is his gaming; for the leaſt frown of

chance upon him, then gives fire to whole vollies of curſes againſt fortune, if at leaſt they deſerve not a more heinous title than barely that of curſes, who in ſeverer men's
Prov. xvi. 33. opinions are guilty of an (at leaſt) implicit blaſphemy: ſince *Solomon* does diſcreetly affirm, that all the croſs and happy lucks at play are not raſhly or deſignleſsly ſhuffled by a blind hazard, but are diſpenſed by an all-ruling providence.

I DETERMINE not here whether theſe words of the wiſe man (according to the received opinion of divines) may be extended to an abſolute ſentence of condemnation againſt all games of hazard; but this I know, that (not to inſiſt on that injunction of
Exod. xxiii. 13. God to the *Jews*, "Be circumſpect, and make no mention of the names of other gods, "neither let it be heard out of thy mouth;") it is very unfit that, under the ſun-ſhine of Chriſtianity, we ſhould build or repair the ruined altars of depoſed chance, and acknowledge a blind deity; that under the abuſed name of fortune, fools anciently were pleaſed to create a goddeſs, and ſinners now diſſemble to miſtake for ſome ſuch thing, that they may unreproved controul and cenſure thoſe heavenly diſpenſations their proud and peeviſh natures are diſpleaſed with. I know that many unforeſeen accidents, which the ignorant vulgar do impute to fortune, are by God in the ſcripture aſcribed to providence: and therefore you muſt give me leave both to take notice of, and diſapprove that ungrateful expreſſion of our language, wherein (to juſtify our unthankfulneſs for the benefits we have received) we uſe to call God's bleſſing to a man in his outward poſſeſſions, his fortune; as if our eſtates were gifts blindly caſt on us, by the raſh profuſeneſs of that fond deity, and not the emanations of God's bounty,
Gen. xxxiii. 11. & 5. and preſents of his promiſes. Old *Jacob*'s gratitude ſpeaketh another ſtrain, and will not mention his wealth (though never ſo juſtly the wages of his proſpered induſtry) without acknowledging it for the gift of God.

BUT ſince this much-abuſed name of fortune has preſented itſelf in my way, I dare not take leave of it till I have expreſſed a deſire that men would be more wary how they defame her, leſt through the ſides of fortune they affront providence. If fortune, under the common notion, had feed me to be her advocate, I ſhould alledge that gameſters, of all others, have the leaſt juſtice to complain of her diſfavours, ſince the ſucceſs of the one abſolutely depending upon the loſſes of the other, they themſelves reduce fortune to a neceſſity of diſobliging ſome of them, by rendering it impoſſible for her to content them all. And I would add, that what we fondly call her inconſtancy, when ſhe ſometimes forſakes thoſe ſhe once ſmiled on, is much more properly to be aſcribed to the juſtice of her goodneſs, and the extenſiveneſs of her affection to men; ſince ſeeing ſhe is not able to make them all completely happy at once, at leaſt ſhe endeavours to make them fortunate by turns, and for ſome intervals of time.

NOR is it her fickleneſs, that in purſuance of this impartial love ſhe ſeems to deſert her former favourites, when ſhe confers her favours on new perſons, ſince ſhe bereaves not the firſt poſſeſſors of them with intention, but only by conſequent, as being not able to lend her benefits to new neceſſities, without redemanding them of her former debtors; whom, otherwiſe, ſhe has as little deſign to offend by this tranſplacing of her bounties, as the ſun has to benight the antipodes, when to bring light into our hemiſphere, he is neceſſitated to leave them in darkneſs.

IT is not the malice or inſtability of fortune, but our miſtakes of the nature of her preſents, that occaſion our complaints; for we miſtaking thoſe benefits for abſolutely given to us, which are indeed but depoſited in our hands, repine and murmur at their reſtitution, inſtead of being thankful for their loan, and having had their uſe. And ſurely they that pretend to be ſo perfect in her conſtancy, muſt be guilty of more madneſs in truſting her, than ſhe can be of treachery in deceiving them.

BUT

BUT were I to frame an apology to vindicate fortune, under the notion of providence, I might repreſent that what we attribute of her envious partiality, when ſhe does ſhower moſt favours on thoſe that leaſt deſerve them, is but the effect of God's immenſer bounty, that gives even them a larger portion of pleaſures in this life, to whom he reſerves none at all in the next; and withal caſts a diſeſteem upon theſe glittering goods fools over-value, by heaping them upon his very enemies.

I MIGHT farther alledge, that what our diſcontents call fortune's ſpitefulneſs, and her injuſtice, when ſhe ſeems to perſecute thoſe moſt that are moſt virtuous, is in effect but God's care of his children, which by theſe afflictions both exerciſes and improves their piety, ſecures them from the allurements of proſperity, endears his aſſiſtances and his recompences by theſe difficulties; which both add luſtre to their victories, and make their virtues more exemplary and more meritorious.

AND (laſtly) I might ſay, that what we miſcall inconſtancy in fortune, when her changes invalidate the title of preſcription to her favours, and make their reſidence (when poſſeſſed) as uncertain as their wiſhed ſtay is welcome, is indeed but a merciful ſtratagem of providence, to wean us from a dangerous fondneſs of theſe tranſitory goods; leſt, if the continuance of their fruition were as certain as the contentments of it are great, we ſhould, by neglecting, forfeit all nobler joys, and loſe far greater pleaſures reſerved for us in heaven.

BUT we have too long wandered from our theme: let us return to *Cleander* and his curſing; which, over and above thoſe other good qualities we have already obſerved in it, has that of being a ſin as uſeleſs as it is unchriſtian. All other vices have ſomething to extenuate their guilt; all other ſinners ſerve Satan for his pay; but the curſer (as the ſwearer) is the devil's volunteer, valuing his ſoul ſo cheaply, that ſome ſuſpect that the reaſon of its ſtay in the body is, that the devil ſcarce thinks it worth the fetching: and certainly *Eſau*'s bargain, who ſold his birth-right for a meſs of pottage, becomes no more abſurd, when paralleled to this; which makes thoſe it damns as much admired for their folly, as tormented for their ſins; and ſo caſts upon them the imputation of madneſs, that it deprives them of the privilege of madmen: for whereas frantic perſons (who innocently act all crimes) may kill men without murder, the curſer (on the other ſide) does murder without killing. Gen. xxv. 33.

CLEANDER may, indeed, give himſelf to the devil by his curſes, but never his enemy: for if *Solomon*'s authority be credited in this point, we ſhall believe that, "as Prov. xxvi. 2.
"the bird by wandering, as the ſwallow by flying, ſo the curſe cauſeleſs ſhall not
"come." But the beſt of it is, that theſe intentional ſins, for being ineffectual againſt others, diveſt not the being criminal in themſelves: for the curſer is as uncharitable to himſelf as to his enemies; he commits murders without acting them, and contracts the guilt of his neighbour's blood without ſhedding it, and incurs the penalty, without once taſting the ſweetneſs of revenge. For it is not only in good that God accepts the will for the deed; he makes the ſame reception to our endeavours and deſigns of ill. And juſtly may God puniſh the ill by us intended, though by him prevented; ſince that diſappointment, in which we think to find our juſtification, is not the effect of our want of malice, but our want of power; and ſo does not excuſe our ill, but magnifies God's goodneſs. Let us therefore ceaſe to wonder, that whilſt we curſe one another, our Maker curſes us; and that the plague is ſo raging in our houſes, ſo long as it is ſo rife in our mouths: but rather let us tremble at that diſmal fate, that *David*, praying againſt his enemies, propheſies againſt God's; "As he loved curſing," Pſal. cix. 17.
ſays he, "ſo let it come unto him: as he delighted not in bleſſing, ſo let it be far 18.
"from him: as he clothed himſelf with curſing, like as with his garment, ſo let it
"come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones."

I MIGHT yet farther alledge, that curſes are of ſo culpable a nature, that their very
Matt. xii. 36. apology concludes them guilty, by pleading them to be idle words: and I might add to all the paſt diſſuaſives, the ill repute that curſes gain a man amongſt the moſt ſcrupulous and preciſer ſort of people, who judging of the greatneſs of the vice by the ſmallneſs of the advantage that is derivable from it, will hardly believe him to be the owner of much piety, that will ſlight it upon ſo little a temptation. And thoſe of our divines that hold curſes to be the dialect of the reprobates in hell, will think it but an ominous piece of providence in *Cleander* to imitate travellers, who uſe to accuſtom themſelves beforehand to the language of thoſe climes they deſign to viſit. But the laſt conſiderations that I ſhall employ, to perſuade you to diveſt, with the practice of uſing curſes, the means of provoking them, and the fears of ſuffering them, is that of the ſcandal this vicious cuſtom gives to weaker Chriſtians. And as the former conſiderations relate properly to *Cleander*, ſo this I muſt more peculiarly addreſs to you, whoſe virtues have acquired you ſo high a reverence, that they have put it in your power not only to excuſe, but almoſt to canonize the worſt actions by your example; and therefore ought to make you ſo much the more wary and ſtrict in your behaviour: ſince men believing it impoſſible to fail in imitating you, your exemplary faults will contract a deeper guilt by being precedents, than by being ſins.

BUT, Sir, leſt I ſhould give you too juſt an occaſion to increaſe the number of your curſes, by beſtowing ſome freſh ones upon my tedioufneſs, I will now put a period to your trouble, by ſaying to you, as once our Saviour did to the young man in the
Matt. x. 21. goſpel (that ſo reſembled you in the poſſeſſion of ſo many virtues) "One thing thou "lackeſt" (yet;) and that one thing in you is, but, by ſacrificing your habitude of curſing, to make yourſelf capable of as tranſcendent bleſſings as conſtantly are implored for you, by,

SIR,

Your moſt affectionate, moſt faithful,

and moſt humble ſervant,

W. D.

LETTERS

LETTERS

FROM AND TO

Mr. BOYLE,

AND

TRACTS by HIM.

Now firſt publiſhed from the ORIGINALS.

LETTERS
OF
Mr. BOYLE
TO
SEVERAL PERSONS.

SIR,

THOUGH the favours you heaped upon me at *London*, were both very numerous and very great; yet cannot I eſteem any (not to ſay all) of them ſuperior to the welcome promiſe you were pleaſed to make me before, and confirm at our parting, of a conſtant correſpondency during our ſeparation. For not only your letters will continue to me the happineſs of your converſation, but will hinder it from becoming occaſionally a diſquiet to me; which it would certainly prove, if, having enjoyed it enough to long for more of it, your pen ſhould not gratify the deſires your tongue hath created. Since then, Sir, you are pleaſed, not only to allow, but to command me to write to you, I am too much a friend to my own inclinations, not with equal joy and readineſs to obey you: and I hope you will pardon me, if my deſire of ſeeing the *Engliſh* language honoured by your ſkill in it, make me willing to engage you to be more converſant with it, by employing it in my letters to you. And the ſame juſt concern for the glory of the *Engliſh* tongue obliges me to beſeech you, not to do it the injury to judge of it by my writing it; for it is not more true, that, being a very bad ſecretary, I cannot expreſs my thoughts otherwiſe than very dully in it, than it is, that my uneloquent expreſſions are imputable to the writer, not the tongue; for I think I may ſay, without flattering it, that though I have been a much greater ſtudier than prizer of languages, I have not learned any beſides the *Greek*, in which good thoughts may be expreſt with leſs diſadvantage; and that he would be ſuperior, both to *Demoſthenes* and *Cicero*, that were fruitful in as choice conceptions as may be happily expreſt in *Engliſh*. All this I had ſooner written to you, and had earlier paid you the duty of this letter, if I had not been withheld by the apprehenſion of diſturbing your joys. For I am told, that *Hymen* makes you recant the opinions you lately defended againſt the ſovereignty of *Cupid*: they ſay, your grand theme is now no longer the prerogatives of a free heart, and the advantages of a ſingle life, but a certain frame of mind, expreſt long ſince by

Omnia vincit amor, & nos cedamus amori.

But though your late contempt of love and women, and the railleries, with which you threatened me, in caſe I did what I may now do only to imitate you, give me both cauſe and riſe enough to puniſh you, and to let you ſee, that I have not been cauſleſsly thought ſufficiently ſtored with declamations againſt *Cupid* and *Hymen*; yet I ſhall willingly ſacrifice my reſentments, and this inviting opportunity of expreſſing

them to your alliance with honeſt Mr. *Hartlib*. For I cannot conclude you leſs a ſervant to philoſophy, by chooſing a miſtreſs in his family, and I cannot but look upon it as an act of his grand deſign to oblige this nation, that he hath found this way to detain you amongſt us.

SINCE I began this letter, I received a peremptory information of your marriage, in which I wiſh you and your bride as much happineſs as ever that relation afforded any. A longer letter would now, perhaps, be an unſeaſonable interrupter of your joys; and therefore, though not to violate the laws of our commerce, I dare not ſend away this paper without ſomething philoſophical in it; yet what I ſhall now incloſe you, ſhall be only a way to make wine to drink the bride's health; which (as little as I love any ſtrong drink) that I may do to you, I heartily wiſh myſelf for a few hours at *London*. Having received this proceſs from a friend as a ſecret, I ſhall beg you would not let it loſe that name: and if the inventor of this artificial wine do not flatter it, *England* may afford us as generous, though not as laſting wine as the *Canaries*. I ſhould now likewiſe ſend you the way of making wine and ſpirit of wine out of corn; but the unwelcome affairs, that diſtract me here, have at preſent put it out of my head; and the papers I have of it being in one or other of my trunks, ſome of which are already ſhipt, and the others ready to be ſent aboard, I muſt ſuſpend the ſending you that proceſs, till the next trouble I give you of this nature; and, in the mean time, ſhall deſire you to do me the favour to name me an humble ſervant to the fair lady, that hath freed you from the conſtant trouble of defending your heart: for though in making herſelf happy, ſhe have obliged all the ingenious perſons in *England*, by procuring them the happineſs of your preſence; yet is there none in all that numerous company, that her ſtopping you at *London* hath ſo highly and ſo ſenſibly obliged, as he, that ſtiles himſelf,

SIR,

Briſtol this 27th of *September*.

your moſt affectionate,
moſt faithful, and moſt
obliged humble ſervant.

[This letter was probably written to Dr. *Clod*, who married a daughter of Mr. *Hartlib*.]

SIR,

I RECEIVED juſt now, in a letter as worthy of you, as I am unworthy of it; a of praiſes ſo unexpected, and ſo unmerited, that only its ſuperſcription alone made me think myſelf at all concerned in its contents. Nor muſt I miſtake you and myſelf ſo much, as to think it either ſhould or could be anſwered or believed: I know you write it rather to expreſs your wit, than your opinion; and I perceive, that your rhetoric being enjoined a maſter-piece, has made ſuch uſe of your civility to beguile your modeſty, that, to do herſelf right, under the notion of doing me an honour, ſhe hath drawn you unawares to ſend me your own character; which I value too much, and have too little title to, either to own or keep, and which therefore I reſend you (as a miſtaken picture to its true original) being not a little ſatisfied to find myſelf in a condition to exempt myſelf by an act of juſtice, from the neceſſity of committing one of dulneſs; of which nature any thing muſt unavoidably have appeared, that had pretended to return your compliments in any but your [their] own expreſſions, they being ſuch tranſcendent and obliging ones, that even as much eloquence as you are pleaſed to aſcribe me, would not yet anſwer that you have aſcribed it with: and you alone have wit enough to ſay, what you have merit enough to deſerve to have ſaid to you. But, truſting my obedience with the manifeſting of my gratitude,

gratitude, [reſentments] I ſhall proceed to tell you, that I perceive, by the obliging expreſſions you are pleaſed to convey your commands in, that *Theodora* hath been introduced into your eſteem by ſo partial a character, that the juſt apprehenſion, that her preſence might deſtroy it, would make her unwilling to be known to you under any other notion, if ſhe were not infinitely more concerned in her felicity than her reputation [glory.] But ſhe had rather acquaint you with her imperfections, than live any longer a ſtranger to your virtues; and therefore thus readily accepts your invitation: though ſhe ſays it would be without ſome trouble, that ſhe ſees herſelf neceſſitated to make ſame ſo ill a return [requital] for the ſervice ſhe has done her, in recommending to you, as the diſcrediting her introducer with you, if ſhe ignored the over-raiſing expectation to be the ſubtileſt and prejudicialleſt calumny.

SIR,

I ACKNOWLEDGE myſelf to be much beholding to fame for having procured me the honour of your letter; and I am not a little tempted to be proud, that *Carneades*'s reaſonings have brought ſo great an *Helmontian*, as you yourſelf tell me you were, to doubt with him of ſome opinions, that chemiſts do very generally acquieſce in. But though I may, perchance juſtly enough, pretend to be ſomewhat wary in admitting, and free in examining ſuch hypotheſes as I judge to be of moment in philoſophy; yet in other things I readily confeſs, that fame has flattered me; and that I am far from pretending to be maſter, either of the alkahiſt, or of thoſe other great *Helmontian* and *Paraceliſian* arcana, of which you ſeem to ſuſpect me to be a poſſeſſor; though as to chemical experiments of an inferior ſort (which yet may be not uſeleſs in philoſophy or in phyſic) I may poſſibly be acquainted with ſome of them, which I have not been unwilling to exchange for others of the like nature, with perſons curious of ſuch matters. But I am very ſorry, that I cannot at preſent make benefit of the literary commerce, that is ſo civilly offered me by ſo learned a man. For I have had this great while ſo great a weakneſs in my eyes, that it is exceeding troubleſome to me to write even ſhort letters; inſomuch that I have not theſe many months written any to my neareſt friends. And I am now ſo buſied about the publication of experiments and obſervations, that I had formerly made, and conſigned to paper, concerning cold, that that work has, ſince I received your letter, ingroſſed all the time I had to ſpare for philoſophical employments. But though I am not ſo happy, as to be in a condition of making uſe of the correſpondence you are pleaſed to invite me to; yet I am not ſo unjuſt, as not to receive ſuch a favour with the reſentments that become your, *&c.*

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR,

I FREELY confeſs to you, that I was ſo troubled and diſcouraged by having had the number of the firſt books that I writ, leſſened by more than one, that were ſurreptitiouſly got away from me; that I afterwards, to ſecure myſelf againſt the like loſſes of a whole treatiſe at a time, reſolved to write in looſe and unpaged ſheets; and ſometimes (when I had only ſhort memorials, or other notes, to ſet down) even in leſſer papers. And though I knew it probable, that by this courſe I might loſe ſome papers, yet ſuppoſing I ſhould by that courſe keep ſome men from the temptation they had before, I preſumed, that, by the help of the remaining papers and my memory, I ſhould quickly be able to ſupply the loſs of a ſheet or two, in caſe it ſhould happen.

BUT after that I have thus confeſſed, I muſt alſo acknowledge to you, that after the weakneſs of my eyes had, by diſabling me to write myſelf, reduced me to dictate and commit my papers to others, when I came to tack the looſe ſheets together into entire treatiſes, I found, that, through the negligence at leaſt of ſome men, if not alſo the fraud of others, ſo many were miſſing, and ſome of them (that had lain the longeſt by me) ſuch as I could not retrieve out of my memory, that I thought fit to comply in great part with the advice of a friend or two, who being unwilling, that ſuch things ſhould periſh to me, as well as others, by vaniſhing out of my memory, were deſirous that I ſhould ſet them down, as they occurred to me, in one book, to be committed to ſome truſty and friendly perſon. And accordingly I have here cauſed divers of my ſcattered memorials and notes, and other looſe papers, to be tranſcribed without any coherence, or any other order, than that wherein they chanced to occur to me; adding, here and there, divers later obſervations and thoughts, which, upon occaſion adminiſtred by theſe tranſcribed paſſages, came into my mind: and though ſeveral of them may ſeem but bare hints, and, perhaps, ſome of them but mere ſimilies, and other kinds of expreſſion; yet I forbear not to annex them, becauſe they have ſuch relations to the diſcourſe they belong to, as to be fit to bring again to my remembrance the whole paſſage, and perhaps the ſubſtance of the whole diſcourſe, whereto they appertain.

THE marginal notes that expreſs to what book, or tract already divulged, the paſſages are to be inſerted, or to which of the unpubliſhed papers they belong, may be, to you, that are pleaſed now and then to give yourſelf the trouble of ſurveying ſome of my writings together, not wholly unacceptable; as well as it may prove uſeful to me, by facilitating my referring them, upon occaſion, to their proper places. And ſince you have been pleaſed to encourage me, I ſhall preſume upon your pardon, if I commit this rude and undigeſted heap of materials to your cuſtody, to which I ſhould, with much more willingneſs, and no leſs confidence, intruſt, if I had them, necklaces of pearl, than ſuch heaps of oyſter-ſhells; and therefore I ſhall not fear a refuſal, when I deſire, that theſe mangled papers may, during my life, be expoſed to no other, than to ſuch favourable eyes (as well as diſcerning ones) as your's, without the expreſs conſent of,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate
and humble ſervant.

SIR, *Kenſ. Dec.* 12.

IT was my unhappineſs to be obliged, by going out of town, the ſame day I ſaw you at *Greſham* college, to be deprived of the ſatisfaction of waiting on you, at your own lodgings, before you returned to *Oxford*. I ſent two ſeveral times to enquire after Mr. *Pool*'s book; but the firſt day, by a miſtake in the direction, the meſſenger miſſed of your ſon's houſe; and another day he found the houſe, but not Mr. *Wallis* at home; ſo that till ſome hours ago, they were not brought to my lodging; which, I hope, will procure me your pardon, for not ſooner acknowledging the favour you did me, in relation to them. The news here is neither very conſiderable, nor very certain. I was yeſterday at *Whitehall*, and was informed, that his majeſty is learning ſomething of the mathematics, and that, as they ſay, of your brother, the biſhop of *Saliſbury*. Whilſt I was there, the king ſent for Mr. *Mercator* to come to him; but he being not found in the way, I could not learn of him, as I elſe might have done, what ſervice was required of him; but was only confirmed, in the general, that his majeſty's laudable

laudable curiosity now applies itself to mathematical enquiries; which *Plato*'s prognostic about philosophising monarchs will, I presume, make no unwelcome news to you; on which account it is sent you by,

SIR,

your most affectionate friend
and most humble servant.

THE permission you were pleased to vouchsafe me, of begging in your letters some part of that satisfaction I am necessitated to relinquish with your company, is that, which gives you the trouble of this letter, and me the confidence of giving you this trouble. Which I do with the less scruple, because your conversation hath ascertained me, that which I most do want, you can as easily spare. For I desire not to put you to the trouble of gadding to *Whitehall*, or *Westminster*, to send me the intelligence of what is resolved or voted there. No; without stiring out of your laboratory, you may give me all the information I sue for; since I beg no account of any thing but of what is done there; and shall desire no *Mercurius* to march on any other than on *Vulcan*'s errands. And I know your letters (as well as your discourses) are as naturally more fertile in philosophy, than news, as oysters are in pearls, than in rattles. I need not mind you of the observation, that chemists acquaintance is of age at a day old. (As the needle and the loadstone, at their first meeting, close, as if they did so upon an age's friendship.) For you know, that *Vulcan* is a quicker mediator of amities, than even *Virtue* herself: and those metals, that grew in (never so) distant mines, he can, in a few minutes, perfectly and exactly associate and unite. Nor should I regret the time and pains I have spent in chemistry, though I had never derived from them any other benefit, than their having thus early radicated my acquaintance with you; from whom I must now earnestly beg the favour of that correspondence, with whose promise you had the charity to sweeten my unwelcome separation from you. But I shall not only consent, but article, that not alone all ceremony and compliment, but even all rhetoric and care of language, may be severely banished from our commerce; as things yet less consistent with chemistry and employedness, than with freedom, or with truth: and for my part, so your letters be but as fraught as your discourses with gold of *Ophir*, I shall very willingly bate you the apes and the peacocks; which I know too, that one so rich, in all but trifles, as you, would find as much a more unobvious, as a less valued freight. That which would most trouble me in this philosophical traffic, would be, that its advantages will be too entirely mine (since I fear my retributions will be so trifling, as to amount but to acknowledgments, not exchanges) but that I consider, that in knowledge it is as much more glorious, as more blessed, to give than to receive; since where our returns cannot increase your knowledge, they argue it; and in as celebrated a way, as the stars do the sun's transcendent brightness, by their disability to heighten it by all theirs. And since the mind's intellectual splendor, knowledge, both as a good and as a light, must doubly joy in that kind property, diffusion, I shall not despair of making you at least such an acknowledgment, as the moon makes the sun, by her reflections increasing light, though she increase not his. For I intend to court nature as eagerly as such a discommodated solitude will permit me; and give you a faithful account of my proficiency in her favour by your mediation and influence: but at present the unlucky and unexpected lingring of the waggon, which is to bring me all my *Vulcanian* implements, and my necessitated idleness, till they come, makes me wish it drawn by *Pegasusses*, and think it drawn by snails; and makes me sadly walk up and down in my

my laboratory, like an impatient lutaniſt, who has his ſong-book and his inſtrument ready, but is altogether diſprovided of ſtrings. This unſeaſonable diſaſter, by enforcing an unlooked for backwardneſs in my preparations, does alſo conſtrain me to mind you of thoſe remedies you were pleaſed to promiſe me the maidenhead of (and principally thoſe againſt the ſtone and the ſmall-pox, the former of which does now diſquiet me, and of which the latter is very rife in theſe parts) and to beg, that, as ſoon as you have made them, a proportion of them may be conveyed to him, who will not fail, at his next remove to *London*, to make your favours all the acknowledgments and the returns, that may become the gratitude and manifeſt the friendſhip of, Sir, *&c.*

Dear Mr. WORSELEY,

YOUR ſilence would extremely trouble me, if, as it denied me the happineſs to hear from you, I had alſo miſſed the contentment of hearing of you. But this laſt I received in a letter of my ſiſter *Ranelagh*, together with the welcome news, that your popoſitions had already paſſed the houſe of lords (who it ſeems are at leiſure to hear petitions, now they have little or nothing elſe left them to do) and is retarded only by the univerſal remora of handſome deſigns, the want of a little dung-coloured earth. Truly I never found in myſelf ſuch ſtrong deſires for that adored muck, as now, that I ſee what gallant projects its affluence may promote. And I am apt to believe that a very juſtifiable avarice, that wiſhes not the poſſeſſion of riches, but the employment; and not ſo much for the pleaſure they may reap by it, as for the good they may do with it. But I muſt confeſs to you, that, in my wiſhes for the proſperity of your pious powder-plot, my private intereſts would needs mingle with more public conſiderations, I having been lately ſo vexed by thoſe undermining two-legged moles, we call ſaltpeter-men, that my purſe, as well as my affection, makes vows for your ſucceſs. My pigeon-houſe they are already digging up, (an emblem of the practice of the times, in the ruin of unarmed innocence) and would have done the like to my cellar and ſtables, if I had not ranſomed them with a richer mineral than that they contain. I hoped my retreat to this ſolitude would have made me maſter of leiſure enough to entertain my own baniſhed thoughts, and perfect ſome lame diſcourſes I brought hither with me, to that purpoſe: but the neceſſary care of ordering my own ſmall mangled fortune, the unrulineſs of the troopers, my frequent journies, the allowed incendiaries (the ſaltpeter-men) and (to compleat my diſaſters) the tedious, ſenſeleſs viſits of our country gentlemen, have ſo ſhared my hours amongſt them, that I find here as great a dearth of time, as there is of corn; and have now leſs of it at my own diſpoſal, than when I was fain to trifle it away with the ladies: and the plain truth of it is, that (betwixt the injuſtice of thoſe, that hold the civil ſword, and the unrulineſs of thoſe, that draw the martial) things are carried in ſo ſtrange a way in the *Weſt*, that theſe parts can afford little content or ſafety to any man, that is not either a ſoldier, a ſequeſtrator, or a committee-man. My grand employment, in my ſpare hours, is, to catechiſe my gardener and our ploughmen, concerning the fundamentals of their profeſſion; where I have fortuned upon ſome obſervations, that have perſuaded me into a paradox in huſbandry, as new as any of the religions minted in your heretical [*Coleman*] ſtreet. The opinion itſelf, together with the reaſons that led me to it, you ſhall hear of, God willing, by the next opportunity; I being extremely mindful of my promiſe, to tranſmit to you any thoughts or experiments of mine, that I ſhall judge conducible to the furtherance of your great deſign, and the enabling you to do for the great world, what the chairmen of the phyſicians has done for the little, publiſh a diſcourſe

courſe *de uſu partium*. But leſt the tediouſneſs of this letter ſhould fright you from the lecture of thoſe others, that are deſtined to attend it, I will haſten to a concluſion; which though cuſtom enjoin me to make with a compliment, yet I am reſolved to continue ſo obſequious to our late decrees againſt that uſeleſs ceremony, that, to be ſure to keep far enough, not only from the guilt, but from the very ſuſpicion of that crime, I will content myſelf with as naked, as true a profeſſion of my being very really,

SIR, *&c.*

SIR, *London, Saturday* morning.

THE weakneſs of my eyes forbidding me to venture them, by candlelight, upon ſo ſmall a print, as that of the *French* book (of the Pere *Cherubin*) that you did me the favour to leave with me yeſternight, I could not, till late this morning, peruſe what he thought fit to write againſt my experiments, about the penetrability of glaſs with ſome finer parts of flame. I am more willing to paſs by, than imitate his dogmatical way of writing; and, in compliance with my preſent haſte, ſhall only conſider the ſubſtance of what he is pleaſed to object againſt my experiments.

I EXAMINE not what he ſuppoſes, about a violent extenſion of the air included in my ſealed retort, and that this ſtretched air has a ſtrong attractive power, to draw in the neighbouring air, when the *apex* of the glaſs was broken off; becauſe, though I do not acknowledge any ſuch attractive power in the air, yet I do not ſee how the ſuppoſition of that power will diſable my argument.

I THINK I may be pardoned, if I did omit the weighing the retort, and all that was in it, before I broke it; for I did not then know, that any body was like to make the exception the P. *Cherubin* has propoſed; and I thought it would be tedious to the reader, as well as to me, to ſet down all the imaginable objections, that could poſſibly be deviſed: and though this, that is made, had been actually ſuggeſted to me, only as a poſſible doubt, though not as the grand objection of a learned man, I ſhould yet perhaps have ſaved myſelf the labour of ſolicitouſly clearing it, becauſe, the circumſtances of the experiment ſeemed ſufficient to juſtify the concluſion inferred from it, as will by and by appear. And one, that were a ſceptic, and would have propoſed all the ſuſpicions that might have been deviſed, would perhaps have acquieſced in ſuch a trial as my cenſurer declares would have ſatisfied him, becauſe of another jealouſy, that came into my mind, when I was converſant about the experiment. For, on this occaſion, I muſt let you know for a certain reaſon, that needs not now be told, I remember I did weigh a ſealed retort, with matter in it, and found it increaſed in weight, but thought not fit to lay much ſtreſs on that circumſtance.

As for the authority of Sir *K. Digby*, I am glad my cenſurer has ſo much deference for it, ſince that famous knight relates, that he had made quickſilver paſs in ſmall drops through glaſs itſelf; which, if true, will quite deſtroy P. *Cherubin*'s denial of the poroſity of glaſs: but, for a reaſon I have elſewhere declared, I will lay no weight on this; but ſhall conſider, wherein the ſtrength of the cenſurer's objection lies; namely, that by Sir *K. Digby*'s experiments it appears, that calcined bodies do notably augment in ſubſtance, by the attraction they make of the air; to which I briefly anſwer, that if the P. were as well verſed in chemiſtry, as he is in optics, he would not probably have looked upon this objection as irrefragable; for he will give one, that is a piece of a chemiſt, leave to tell him, that calcined bodies may be of very differing kinds, and that, though many of them, eſpecially vegetables, being calcined, do in time increaſe in weight, by the inſinuation made into the pores of their more ſaline parts, not by the ſimple air, but by the moiſt vapours that rove up and down

in the air, and eaſily adhere to, and penetrate lixiviate ſalts; yet there are other calcined bodies, that are of a very different condition, ſuch as are the calces of metals, at leaſt of tin and lead; in which neither taſte, or for ought I have obſerved, any other means, has yet manifeſted a lixiviate ſalt, like that of burned vegetables. And therefore it need not ſeem ſtrange, that though calcined tartar, left in a moiſt air, will in time thereby be reſolved to a liquor, yet no ſuch thing will happen to the aſhes or calces of burned tin or lead; ſo that it is very improbable, that, in a few minutes, thoſe metals, though but partly calcined in my retorts, ſhould from air gain ſo great an increaſe of weight; eſpecially conſidering, that there is another manifeſt cauſe to be aſſigned for that increment, divers experiments purpoſely made having aſſured, that either of thoſe metals, being calcined, will make a notable acquiſt of weight upon the operation of the fire. And I opportunely remember, that this very year, having had occaſion to melt together, and ſteep for a pretty while in fuſion, a mixture of tin and copper, amounting in all to a pound (I ſay juſt, becauſe, though I dreamed not I ſhould make this uſe of the experiment, yet the uſe I did deſign required all things ſhould be very carefully weighed,) I found, that though a ſmall portion of the mixture was calcined, yet the total had gained in weight no leſs than 233 grains. And now, Sir, I am ſummoned to take leave of you and this paper, and want to renew and enlarge what I have ſcribbled; but perhaps what has been ſaid may keep it from being a preſumption in me to confeſs, that in the P. *Cherubin*'s objections, I have yet ſeen no reaſon to do what perhaps few are more diſpoſed to do, alter my former opinions, his againſt them ſeeming to me to have more of confidence than ſtrength. I am in great haſte,

SIR, *&c.*

SIR,

IF your charity be not extraordinary, my want of civility will appear ſo to you, for having ſo long delayed acknowledging a favour, for which you might expect very early, as well as very affectionate thanks. But it will, perhaps, with ſo equitable and favourable a judge, paſs for ſome excuſe of my ſilence, if not for a juſtification of it, that your learned book came to my hands, when, being to make a journey into the *Weſt*, without knowing how long time, that and my affairs in the country would coſt me, I was obliged to diſpatch thither, before me, thoſe choicer books, that in caſe my ſtay ſhould prove long, I thought likelieſt to keep it from being tedious. So that till, in my return, I came as far as this place, I had not an opportunity to enjoy the benefit of the welcome preſent you were pleaſed to make me. And ſince my return hither, the amanuenſis, whoſe hand the weakneſs of my eyes confines me to employ, has, upon an urgent occaſion, been unexpectedly kept abſent from me for above three weeks together; were it not for theſe impediments, Sir, I had much earlier expreſſed to you my great ſenſe of the honour and ſatisfaction I received in your excellent idea, which, though the unſettledneſs, which uſually for a while, attends removes, have kept me from going ſo far through, as to be able to take a due proſpect of the concinnity of the work, and the tendency of the reſpective parts to the main deſign of the whole diſcourſe; yet in thoſe chapters I have had opportunity to peruſe, I have already met with divers things, that I have found no where elſe, and others ſo uncommon, even among learned men, that though I do not much doubt but your ſeverity to the *Romaniſts* will, notwithſtanding your apology, procure you adverſaries enough; yet I as little doubt, that more diſintereſted readers will not judge, that, in this learned piece, the author's pen has degenerated from itſelf. If you ſhould tell me, that ſuch a work as this muſt be looked upon with much diſadvantage to it by him,

him, that, seeing but a portion of it, cannot sufficiently discern the symmetry and connexion of the parts, I shall not contradict the allegation. But I hope I shall nevertheless be pardoned, if having been unhappily reduced to suppress my resentments so long, I take the first opportunity of declaring how much your merit and civilities have made me,

SIR,

your affectionate and
humble servant,
ROB. BOYLE.

WORTHY SIR,

I RECEIVED with a great deal of regret the sad and surprizing news, your letter brings me, of the decease of so worthy and useful a person as Dr. *Sall*, whose death I look upon, especially at this juncture of time, as a great loss, not only to those that knew him, but to the church of *Ireland* in general. But, together with that unwelcome news, you send me what does much alleviate the unwelcomness of it, when you acquaint me with your pious and generous resolution, to prosecute the good work he was engaged in with the same Christian aim (the glory of God, and the good of souls) which, I am confident, made him active in it. The nature of the work considered, I wholly agree with you, in thinking it unfit to despond of seeing it successfully carried on by his blessing, whose service is aimed at in it. I look upon it as an auspicious earnest of good success, that you are so zealously bent to promote it. I last week sent poor Dr. *Sall* notice, that I had procured the church catechism, with Dr. *Marshal*'s texts in the margin; and I am promised, within a week, a conveniency of sending it you to *Dublin*. In the mean time I have laid by some money for the charge of the *Irish* grammar, that the dispatch of that may receive no impediment that I can obviate. I intend also to be a further contributer than I have been towards the printing of the Old Testament, if there be any necessary occasion for it; but I am sorry I cannot yet procure the forms of subscription, that were successfully made use of, for the edition of the *Welch* Bible. I am promised them more ways than one, and, if I receive them, shall, God permitting, speedily dispatch them to you. But I do not well see, why those, that are well affected to the work you have in hand, may not begin to do somewhat, whatever becomes of these patterns. The first sheet of *Genesis*, that you desire, is already printed off, and, I presume, on its way to *Dublin* by the last post; Mr. *Reyley* having brought it some hours before that, went away, and having undertaken to dispatch it that night, at the earnest instance of,

Worthy Sir,
your most affectionate
and most humble servant.

[About *April* or *May*, 1682.]

To the COUNTESS of RANELAGH.

My dear SISTER,

IF I were of those scribblers humour, who love to put themselves to one trouble, to put their friends to another; and who weekly break their silence, only to acquaint us with their unwillingness to keep it; I must confess I had much oftner written you letters not worth the reading. But having ever looked upon silence and respect as things as near of kin as importunity and affection, I elected rather to trust your good

opinion to your good-nature, than your patience with my letters: for which to ſuppoſe a welcome, muſt have preſumed a greater kindneſs, than they could have expreſt. For I am grown ſo perfect a villager, and live ſo removed, not only from the roads, but from the very by-paths of intelligence; that to entertain you with our country diſcourſe, would have extremely puzzled me, ſince your children have not the rickets nor the meaſles; and as for news, I could not have ſent you ſo much as that of my being well. To beſeech you not to forget me, were but a bad compliment to your conſtancy; and to tell you I remember you, were a worſe to my own judgment: and compliments of the other nature it were not eaſy for me to write from *Stalbridge*, and leſs eaſy to write to you: ſo that wanting all themes and ſtrains, that might enable me to fill my letters with any thing, that might pay the patience of reading them, I thought it pardonabler to ſay nothing by a reſpectuous ſilence, than by idle words. But the cauſes being juſt ſo many excuſes of that ſilence, I ſhould have more need to apologize for my letters, if theſe ſeemed not neceſſary to prevent the miſconſtruction of their unfrequency; and if I did not ſend up the antidote with them, in the company of my brother *Frank*; by whom it were equally incongruous and unſeaſonable to ſend you no epiſtle, and to ſend you a long one; which (latter) that this may not prove, I muſt haſten to aſſure you, that though I have not very lately written you any common letters, it is not long ſince I was writing you a dedicatory one, which may (poſſibly) have the happineſs to convey your name to poſterity; and having told you this, I ſhall next take poſt to beſeech you to believe, that whenſoever you ſhall pleaſe to vouchſafe me the honour of your commands, my glad and exact obedience ſhall convince you, that though many others may oftner renew their bonds, I can eſteem myſelf, by a ſingle note under my hand, equally engaged to you for all the ſervices, that may become the relation, and juſtify the profeſſions, that ſtile me,

My dear ſiſter,
your moſt affectionate brother,
and faithful humble ſervant,

Stalbridge, this 13th *Novem.*

R. B.

To the EARL of CORKE at YORK.

My deareſt BROTHER,

I THOUGHT I had a very juſt reaſon to quarrel with my ſickneſs, for debarring me the happineſs of waiting upon my ſiſter; but now I am willing to conſent to a reconciliation, ſince the enjoyment of her company muſt have had ſo ſhort a date, as would have ſerved but to have taught me the greatneſs of my loſs. For a late ordinance of parliament (which it ſeems is very ambitious of the honour of your companies) depriving all thoſe of the benefit of the articles of *Oxford*, and ranking them with the greateſt enemies of the ſtate, that ſhall not come hither to proſecute their compoſitions by the firſt of *Auguſt* next; does ſeem to exact your very ſpeedy repair to *London*, where your preſence will be very longingly expected by, and extremely welcome to,

Deareſt brother,
your moſt faithful, and
humble ſervant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

London, this 14th *July*, 1646.

To

To the COUNTESS of RANELAGH.

My deareſt SISTER,

I RECEIVED your letter with a huge deal of ſatisfaction, not only as an effect of your kindneſs, but an evidence of your recovery; which latter property more endeared your neat lines to me, than the former did; ſince the one relates to you, the other reflects only on myſelf; who muſt ever as much prefer the bleſſing of your happineſs, before the happineſs of your affection, as I value this latter above all other goods. I perceive by your intelligence, that we owe our condeſcenſions to our brethren, rather to our fear, than hatred of a war; and am very ſorry to find by your ſtory, that the faculties of our minds ſtand in ſo inverted a relation, that it is our paſſions that bring us to reaſon, rather than we them. It is not alone upon the ſcore of its being ſo lately happened, that I eſteem that to be news, you are pleaſed to inform me, concerning the lords rejected motion to the commons, to have the lieutenancy of the *Tower* confirmed to the general, and the truſt of the kingdom's militia conferred upon him: for I imagine, that deſire of the lords to be a piece of great (to which epithet you will, perhaps, think it needleſs to add that of unuſual) diſcretion; for if (by miracle) the motion paſt, they had got the thanks of it; and their deſign being to have it thrown out, they could not deviſe a likelier way in order to that end, than to make it their motion: ſo that deriving a double advantage from a ſingle act, they gained Sir *Thomas Fairfax*'s affection, by ruining his buſineſs. The ordinance you mention againſt hereſies and blaſphemies appears to me a greater argument of your fright at *London*, than the buildings of that new officious houſe, ſo ominouſly and foreſeeingly erected by the members at *Weſtminſter*. But concerning this point of toleration, I may poſſibly, ere long, give you the trouble of peruſing my thoughts in an eſſay, entitled, *Of Divinity*. It ſeems, by what you relate of the under-hand treaty at *Chelſea*, that juggling is ſtill as much in faſhion with you amongſt the men, as painting is amongſt the women: and I am confident, that if the ſtatute againſt jugglers and hocus-pocus blades were extended to ſtate affairs, and ſtrictly put in execution at this inſtant, ſome (nameleſs) places of very great reſort would be as perfect hermitages, as that your ſervant lives in. What all theſe confuſions will reſolve into at laſt, God only, that diſpoſes of events, (I think) does know: and from our knowledge, that he diſpoſes of them, we ought to derive our conſolation.

Now, for my own particular, I have been in perpetual motion ever ſince I laſt ſaw you; partly to comply with the neceſſity of my little domeſtic affairs, which exact my being active; and partly, by lawful recreations, to divert, as much as may be, that drowſy melancholy, which (beſides other croſſes) the fickleneſs of my health does daily endeavour to increaſe. But believe not my melancholy ſhall drive me to any diverſion, that may make me deſerve it: and for the knight's company you ſo ſeverely diſadviſe, I muſt aſſure you, that for this ſummer I am very unlike to have it; and at all times think myſelf very much above the being perverted by it. But my preſent irreſolution, what courſe to take, makes me ſpare the now giving you any further trouble, than that of deſiring you, if you can, to get the diſpoſing of thoſe chambers at St. *James*'s reſpited, till you hear from me next poſt: by which I hope to give you a full account of his intentions, who, by this day fortnight, expects (God willing) the happineſs of aſſuring you, by word of mouth, how really he is,

My ſiſter,

your moſt faithful, and humble ſervant.

Stalbridge, May 13, 1648.

MADAM,

MADAM,

WHEN I found a tranſcript of my letter encloſed in your ladyſhip's, the diſparity both of their ſtiles and contents, obliged me to reſemble the whole pacquet to moſt of our young gallants, and their clothes; where the covering is ſo much better than that which it enfolds: for ſeriouſly, Madam, I was extremely aſhamed to find, that I had put your ladyſhip to the trouble of a copy of my laſt dull ſcribble, ſince I deſired the return of the original, not more to ſatisfy (or rather diſabuſe) the young gentleman's curioſity, than to aboliſh ſo tedious an inſtance of my bad ſecretaryſhip. The intelligence here is both leſs and worſe, than poſſibly your ladyſhip's expectation preſumes; the *Kentiſh* buſineſs has hurt us no otherwiſe, than by making us fear, that it might do ſo. Victory is as obedient, as the very parliament to the army: my laſt week's aſtrology has not at all deceived me; and though ſince that time divers ſucceſſes of the *Kentiſh* men have extremely frowned upon my predictions, yet the event has very much conformed to my conjectures; the *Kentiſh* being almoſt wholly reduced to the diſcretion of the parliament; who, it is thought, will, in this nice particular, more conſult the laws of policy than thoſe of charity.

THE *Eſſex* men had yeſternight granted them an act of indemnity; which is like to attempt *Bow* bridge with much better ſucceſs than they ſay our forces have had there. The *Surrey* men ſeem, by the fate of their companions, deterred from enterpriſing any novelty; and, after all their threatenings, and complaints, ſeem content, with putting this compliment upon their patience, to let the world know, that they ignore not the extent nor the dimenſions of the wrongs, that they forgive. My lord of *Warwick* was pleaſed to give me a very full account with his own mouth, of his whole negotiation with the fleet: but the printed paper will be ſo ſure to relate, at leaſt as much as is true of that tranſaction, that I ſhall purpoſely decline it: he is now gone to *Portſmouth*, with the ſhipping he finds there, to endeavour the reducing of thoſe ſix ſhips, that ſhow themſelves refractory; of which he aſſured me ſecretly at his departure, that the officers of four were at his devotion. I ſupped laſt night at *Warwick* houſe, with my lady's daughters only; and find by their ſtory, that *Charles Rich* is the grand agitator in this *Eſſex* buſineſs. One of our maſters told me this afternoon at *Weſtminſter*, that they had voted the propoſitions to be treated on with the king, the ſame that were preſented him at *Hampton* court, to be ſent away immediately to the *Scots*, for their concurrence, with a deſire, that they ſend ſuch further particular addreſſes to his majeſty, as they have reſolved on, in order to their own nation's peculiar intereſt. Our brethren are not like to viſit us ſo ſoon as we expected; but our diverſion in theſe parts of the kingdom hath, as it is boaſted, given the royaliſts the liberty of a quiet, and almoſt undiſturbed increaſe in the *North*. The diſobedient ſhips have choſen for their admiral, one major *Kemb*, a miniſter, and a mad witty fellow, whom I have ſometimes been very merry with; his wife being ſiſter to that honeſt red-noſed blade, that waits now upon me. But a perſon of quality, and one, that pretends to be no petty cabaliſt, gave me the honour of a viſit this morning, and aſſured me, that he knew from both parties the probability of a ſpeedy peace to be ſo great, that it is expected even by thoſe perſons, by whom it is not wiſhed for. But, Madam, ſince I began to write this letter, I had unexpectedly the happineſs of a long converſation with the fair lady, that people are pleaſed to think my miſtreſs; and truly, Madam, though I am as far from being in love, as moſt that are ſo are from being wiſe, yet my haſte makes me gladly embrace the old excuſe of,

Then to ſpeak ſenſe,
Were an offence;

to

to extenuate my having hitherto written ſo dully, and my concluding ſo abruptly: for whilſt this amorous rapture does poſſeſs, I neither could write ſenſe without being injurious to my paſſion, nor can any longer continue to write nonſenſe, without ſome violation of that profound reſpect which is both due to you from, and vowed you by,

MADAM,

your ladyſhip's moſt faithful, and moſt humble ſervant.

London, *June* 6, 1648.

[To Mrs. *Huſſey*.]

To the COUNTESS of MONMOUTH, at MOORE-PARK.

MADAM,

IN your ladyſhip's (imparted to me by my ſiſter *Ranelagh*) I find myſelf ſo confounded with civilities, that if ſhe that bleſſed me with the ſight of your letter, had not (for her own diſcharge) exacted of me this acknowledgment of my having ſeen it, I muſt confeſs, I ſhould ſcarce have ventured to return a verbal anſwer; deterred by the impoſſibility of writing without wronging a reſentment, which I can expreſs as little, as I deſerved the praiſes and the favours that have produced it. To be commended by your ladyſhip, and that for ſuch a quality as that which you are pleaſed to think my deſires give me a title to, would poſſibly both create pride in me, and (in ſome ſort) excuſe it; if I did not conſider myſelf extolled for an attribute, which owes more of its price to its rareneſs than its value, and argues much more the degenerateneſs of thoſe young men that want it, than any great virtue in them that do poſſeſs it: that earlineſs of piety, which is made my merit, being ſo much my duty, that it is the faults of others that muſt make it my commendation. As for my pamphlet, Madam, had it expected the glory of entertaining you, it ſhould certainly have appeared in a leſs careleſs dreſs; but, Madam, though after your ladyſhip's approbation, to doubt a general one were to believe the latter not worth the caring for, yet my juſt ſenſe of the ſmallneſs of the acceſſion the preſs can be to the honour of your ladyſhip's peruſal, makes me decline its publication. And as that paper cannot have either a higher applauſe or nobler end, than the being liked and practiſed at *Moore-Park*, ſo if it have either any way diverted your ladyſhip, or had the leaſt influence upon my lord, I have reached my deſires, and gone beyond my hopes. However, Madam, I am richly rewarded for writing ſuch a book, by being enjoined to fetch it where you are. So welcome a command is very unlikely to be diſobeyed; but my obedience, Madam, muſt be paid to the order, not the motive; the fetching of my book may be one effect of my remove, but not the errand of it: for ſure, Madam, your modeſty cannot be ſo injurious, both to yourſelf and me, as to perſuade you that any inferior (that is other) motive, can be looked upon by me as an invitation to a journey, which will bleſs me with ſo great a happineſs as that of your ladyſhip's converſation, and give me the opportunities of aſſuring you, better than my preſent haſte and my diſorder will now permit me, in how tranſcendent a degree I am, Madam,

Your ladyſhip's humble and obliged ſervant,

ROBERT BOYLE.

London, this 7th of *July*, 48.

MY

MY SISTER,

I HAVE ever counted it amongſt the higheſt infelicities of friendſhip, that it increaſingly reflects upon us our imparted griefs; for if our friends appear unconcerned in them, that indifference offends us, and if they reſent them, ſympathy afflicts us. This conſideration, concurring with my native diſpoſition, has made me ſhy of diſcloſing my afflictions, where I could not expect their redreſs; being too proud to ſeek a relief in the being thought to need it, and too good a friend to find a ſatisfaction in their griefs I love, or to admit of the ill-natured conſolation of ſeeing others wretched as well as I. This humour may in part inform you of the cauſe of my ſilence, and, I hope, in part excuſe it; but I am not now at leiſure to make apologies, though I will aſſure you I decline the employment for want of time, not juſtice. Since I wrote to you laſt, I was unlikely enough ever to be in a condition to write to you again; and my danger was ſo ſudden and unexpected, that nothing could tranſcend it, except theirs, whoſe dilatory converſion makes them truſt eternity to the uncertain improvement of a future contingent minute of a life obnoxious to numerous caſualties, as impoſſible (almoſt) to be numbered as avoided. What God has decreed of me, himſelf beſt knows; for my part, I ſhall ſtill pray for a perfect reſignation to his bleſſed will, and a reſembling acquieſcence in it; and I hope his Spirit will ſo conform me to his diſpenſations, that I may chearfully, by his aſſignment, either continue my work, or aſcend to receive my wages. And in this I muſt implore the aſſiſtance of your fervent prayers, dear ſiſter, which I am confident will both find a ſhorter way to heaven, and be better welcomed there. Theſe three or four weeks I have been troubled with the viſits of a quotidian ague, which yet had not the power to hinder me from three or four journies to ſerve *Frank*, and wait upon my dear *Broghill*, nor from continuing my *Vulcanian* feat; and, in the intervals of my fits, I both began and made ſome progreſs in the promiſed diſcourſe of *Public Spiritedneſs*: but now truly weakneſs, and the doctor's preſcriptions, have caſt my pen into the fire; though, in ſpite of their menaces, I ſometimes preſume to ſnatch it out a while, and blot ſome paper with it. My preſent employment is, the reviewing ſome conſolatory thoughts on the loſs of friends, which my poor lady *Suſan*'s death obliged me to entertain myſelf with, and which I am now recruiting. If ever I finiſh them, I ſhall trouble you to read them; and if I do not, beſeech you to make uſe of them. The melancholy which ſome have been pleaſed to miſrepreſent to you as the cauſe of my diſtempers, is certainly much more the effect of them; neither is it either of that quality or that degree you apprehend, but much more juſt than dangerous: yet, to obey you, I ſhall endeavour a divorce; and, as the propereſt means, endeavour to wait upon you; in order to which, I came this night in a litter to this town, whence I intend not to diſlodge, till God's bleſſing upon the remedies enable me to do it on horſeback. The kindneſs you expreſſed in the letter I received this morning, has brought me ſo high a conſolation, that I ſhould think it cheaply purchaſed by the occaſion of it, if I had ignored that the ſole want of ſuitable opportunities reſtrained the frequency of reſembling ſtrains; and if I were not too well acquainted with the greatneſs of your goodneſs, not to derive a higher joy from your obliging proffers, as they are effects of your friendſhip than teſtimonies of it. But though I value the bleſſing of your company at the rate of having the happineſs of more than an indifferent acquaintance with you, I cannot conſent to purchaſe my felicity (if ſuch a thing could be done) by your diſquiet: for your remove will not more certainly diſcompoſe your family, than it will be uſeleſs or unneceſſary to me; the nature of my diſeaſe being ſuch, that it will either fruſtrate your

your visit, or allow me to do so: for if in a very short time it destroy not, it will leave me strength enough to fetch a perfecter cure of it at *London*, whither in spite of my present distempers, which are not small, nor (I fear) very fugitive, the physicians would persuade me that, by God's assistance, I may be able to crawl in a short time. I shall beseech you therefore not to stir, until you hear further either from me, or of me; and to believe, that though your visits are favours of too precious a quality to be fully receivable from your intention only, yet my concern in your quiet will make me (in the purposed journey) more welcomely resent your design than your presence. I hope you will pardon the disorder of this scribble to that of the writer, who is not only weary of his journey, but is at present troubled with the fit of his ague, which yet being but a sickness, cannot impair an affection, which will be sure to keep me really and unalterably till death,

My dearest, dearest, dearest sister,

Bath, August 2, 1649, late at night.

your most affectionate brother and humble servant,

R. B.

MY SISTER,

I MUST confess that I should be as much in your debt for letters, though I had answered every one of yours, as he is in his creditor's, who for two angels has paid back but two shillings: for certainly, if any where, it is in the productions of the mind, that the quality ought to measure extent, and assign number, and equity to multiply excellency, where wit has contracted it. I could easily evince this truth, and the justness of the application too, did I not apprehend that your modesty would make you mind me, that the nature of my disease forbids all strains. I am here, God be praised, upon the mending hand, though not yet exempted either from pain or fears; the latter of which I could wish (but believe not) as much enemies to my reason, as I find the former to my quiet. I intend notwithstanding, by God's blessing, as soon as I have here recruited and refreshed my purse and self, to accomplish my designed removal to *London*; my hoped arrival at which I look on with more joy, as a fruit of my recovery, than a testimony of it. Sir *William* and his son went hence this morning, having by the favour (or rather charity) of a visit, made me some compensation for the many I have lately received from persons, whose visitations (I think I may call them) in spite of my averseness to physic, make me find a greater trouble in the congratulations, than the instruments of my recovery. You will pardon, perhaps, the bitterness of this expression, when I have told you, that having spent most of this week in drawing (for my particular use) a quintessence of wormwood, those disturbers of my work might easily shake some few drops into my ink. I will not now presume to entertain you with those moral speculations, with which my chemical practices have entertained me; but if this last sickness had not diverted me, I had before this presented you with a discourse (which my vanity made me hope would not have displeased you) of the theological use of natural philosophy, endeavouring to make the contemplation of the creatures contributory to the instruction of the prince, and to the glory of the author of them. But my blood has so thickened my ink, that I cannot yet make it run; and my thoughts of improving the creatures have been very much displaced by those of leaving them. Nor has my disease been more guilty of my oblivion, than my employment since it has begun to release me: for *Vulcan* has so transported and bewitched me, that as the delights I taste in it make me fancy

my laboratory a kind of *Elyſium*, ſo as if the threſhold of it poſſeſſed the quality the poets aſcribed to that *Lethe*, their fictions made men taſte of before their entrance into thoſe ſeats of bliſs, I there forget my ſtandiſh and my books, and almoſt all things, but the unchangeable reſolution I have made of continuing till death,

Stalb. Auguſt the laſt, 1649.

Siſter, your
R. B.

To LORD BROGHILL.

My deareſt GOVERNOR,

I RECEIVE in our ſeparation as much of happineſs as is conſiſtent with it, in hearing of you in ſo glorious, and from you in ſo obliging a way; and in being aſſured, by your letters and your actions, how true you are to your friendſhip and your gallantry. I am not a little ſatisfied to find, that ſince you were reduced to leave your *Partheniſſa*, your ſucceſſes have ſo happily emulated or continued the ſtory of *Artabanes*; and that you have now given romances as well credit as reputation. Nor am I moderately pleaſed, to ſee you as good at reducing towns in *Munſter* as *Aſſyria*, and to find your eloquence as prevalent with maſters of garriſons as miſtreſſes of hearts; for I eſteem the former both much the difficulter conqueſt, and more the uſefuller. Another may lawfully exalt your bold attempts and fortunate enterprizes; but, for my part, I think that ſuch a celebration would extremely miſbecome a friendſhip, to which your goodneſs and my affection flatter me into a belief that our relation has rather given the occaſion than degree. Beſides that I have ſo great a concern in all things wherein you have any, that the preſumption of my own modeſty does, as well as the greatneſs of yours, ſilence my praiſes. And truly, that which moſt endears your acquiſitions to me is, that they have coſt you ſo little blood. For, beſides that the glory is much more your own to reduce places by your own ſingle virtue, and the intereſt it has acquired you, than if you had I know not how many thouſand men to help you, and ſhare as much the honour of your ſucceſſes as they contribute to them; beſides this conſideration, I ſay, certainly though a laurel crown were more glorious amongſt the *Romans*, the myrtle coronet (that crowned bloodleſs victories) ought to be acceptabler to a Chriſtian, who is tied by the bindingeſt principles of his religion to a peculiar charity towards thoſe that profeſs it; to uſe towards delinquents as much gentleneſs as infringes not the juſt rights of the innocent; and to be very tender of ſpilling their blood, for whom Chriſt ſhed his. But I am leſs delighted to learn your ſucceſſes in the world, than to find (by your letter to my ſiſter *Ranelagh*) that you mean not they ſhall tie you to it; and are reſolved, as ſoon as your affairs and reputation will permit you, to diveſt your public employment, and retire to a quiet privacy, where you may enjoy yourſelf, and have leiſure to conſider the vanity of that poſthume glory, which has nothing in it of certain but the uſeleſſneſs. That, in that hurry of buſineſſes that diſtracts you, you could find leiſure to bleſs me with your letters, is a favour, which, though it amaze me not, does highly ſatisfy me. The kindneſs they expreſs is welcomer to me for what it argues, than for what it promiſes; and I am much more pleaſed to ſee you in a condition of making promiſes, than I ſhould be with their accompliſhment. I ſhall only, in general, deſire your countenance for thoſe that manage my fortune in your province, whither I ſhould wait upon my deareſt lady *M.* if black *Betty* did not; and, ſeriouſly, the jade arrived very ſeaſonably to ſave me a journey, for which I was but ſlenderly provided; for having not yet been able to put off my L. *Goring*'s ſtatute, I am kept in this town, to do penance for my tranſgreſſion of that precept, *My ſon, put money in thy purſe.* But the

term

term assigned my expiation is, I hope, near expired; and I despair nor to see myself shortly in a condition to make you a visit, that shall prevent the springs. I shall implore, for my lady *Pegg*, the self-same passage I shall wish for myself, and solemnize the first easterly gale with a

Farewel, fair saint, may not the seas and wind, &c.

But I am so entirely taken up with the contemplation of her and you, that I had forgot that I have to write this night more letters than the four and twenty of the alphabet. My next shall give you an account of my transactions, my studies, and my amours; of the latter of which, black *Betty* will tell you as many lies as circumstances; but hope you know too well what she is, and whence she comes, not to take all her stories for fictions, almost as great as is the truth that stiles me,

My dearest brother,

your most affectionate brother,

and humble servant,

ROBERT BOYLE.

London, this 20th of *Dec.* 1649.

THOUGH I count it no small happiness to enjoy the long-forbidden liberty of writing to you, yet, after almost ten years of separation, and more than almost as long a sorrow for it, to find myself still with-held from a more satisfying and immediate conversation with you than that of letters (by a detention here as tedious as necessary) is an affliction that it is not easy moderately to resent. For being as confident as desirous to be able to wait upon you, in my lady *Broghill*'s company, as soon as our residences should lose their antipathy, I am, both contrary to my expectation and interest, by unforeseen and dilatory accidents, unhappily kept here, and condemned to renounce so fair an opportunity as that which my sister *Broghill*'s remove, and invitations to attend her in it, present me, by a confinement so unwelcome, that nothing more troubles me in my stay here, than that it hinders me from stirring hence. But I despair not, by the dispatch of those affairs that by an indispensable necessity imprison me in this place, to procure a sudden release; which yet, though it should prevent my hopes, will appear slow to my desires; which cannot but be more than moderately eager to review my native country, endeared by your presence, and my fourteen years absence. I know *Frank* will endeavour to persuade you, that it is the thing called love that keeps me here: but truly I have ever kept that passion obsequious, not only to my reason, but my interest; besides that, I should very unwillingly do you the injury of being kept from you by any of your sex. The occasional mention I have made of mistresses, brings into my memory, that I have been desired to say something to you concerning my L. of *Barrimore*'s late marriage. That I neither contributed to it, nor so much as knew of it, I think you cannot ignore; and that, if I had known of it, I should not have contributed to it, my humour will, perhaps, incline you to believe: I ever paid too religious an obedience to my own parents, to persuade or justify the contrary practice. And therefore, without pretending to excuse or extenuate what is past, having minded you that there is a difference betwixt seasonable and just, I shall venture only to represent to you, that the question is not now, whether or no the marriage be a thing fit to be done, but how it is to be suffered: and that, as the best gamesters have not the privilege of chusing their own cards, but their skill consists in well playing the game that is dealt them; so the discreetest persons are not allowed the choice of conditions and events, but their wisdom consists in making the best of those accidents that providence is pleased

to diſpenſe them. This being preſuppoſed, I ſhall beg you to conſider, whether, after ſo powerful a mediation as that of a crowned interceſſor, very paſſionate and laſting (though never ſo juſt) reſentments may not prejudice you with that party for which you have openly declared, and which alone you can have unflattering expectations from; and whether or no, in things paſt remedy, it be not better, rather, by a winning gentleneſs to improve what you diſlike to its beſt uſes, and forgive a fault you have already ſhewn yourſelf, and made him ſenſible of, than perſiſt in teſtifying an implacable indignation, that cannot redreſs a diſpleaſure, and may provoke one. I know you are wiſe enough to be your own counſellor, and that you want neither thoſe abilities that fit us to diſcern reaſon, nor thoſe inclinations to diſpoſe us to acquieſce in it. Nor is it to adviſe you that I have aſſumed this freedom, but only to ſatisfy the deſires of ſome of your neareſt friends; who, though they think the match very unhappy, think it unfit the married pair ſhould be ſo. I hope, by the end of *February*, to juſtify theſe conſiderations, or beg your pardon for them at *Caſtle-lyons*. And if, in the mean time, you will vouchſafe to let me know in what my ſtay here may not be uſeleſs to you, I ſhall think myſelf happy in the opportunities of letting you ſee, that I am as much more willing as more fit to ſerve you, than to counſel you; and that it is by my obedience that I am chiefly ambitious to evince myſelf,

My dear ſiſter,

Lond. this 21ſt of *Dec.* 49. your moſt affectionate,

moſt faithful, and moſt humble ſervant,

ROBERT BOYLE.

THOUGH I received ſo early the ſad account of my deareſt brother's ſickneſs, accompanied with ill preſaging circumſtances, that I could not but doubt it would prove his laſt, and ſo had time to prepare myſelf for the worſt; yet, now that my fear is turned into certainty, I find, that though the warning I had kept me from being ſurpriſed, it cannot keep me from being ſo afflicted and diſcompoſed, that I am much more fit to keep you company in your ſadneſs, than endeavour to cure you of it. And therefore, knowing that I can offer you no conſolations ſo pertinent and weighty as you may ſupply yourſelf with, out of your own ſtock of reaſon and religion, I ſhall not trouble you with a long letter, but only name to you two or three of thoſe conſiderations, that my own experience moſt recommends to me in our common loſs. Under ſo great a one, the chief thing I can pitch upon to quiet my troubled mind is, the conſideration of that hand from which this heavy ſtroke comes: for God, who is infinitely wiſe and good, as well as abſolute, has a much greater right of propriety in our relations than we ourſelves have, they being but our friends or kindred, whereas he is their creator, preſerver, benefactor, and owner; and, upon all theſe titles, has a right to diſpoſe of them as may beſt conduce to his purpoſes; eſpecially ſince the ſame courſe, by which he brings them to contribute to his glory, brings them to be the earlier partakers of it. Another thing, which has much impreſſion on me, is, the remembrance of thoſe great torments and bodily infirmities that have, for divers years, made my dear brother's life very uneaſy to him. This none knows better than yourſelf, whoſe extraordinary kindneſs have made you acquainted with it ſo much to your toil and trouble: ſo that, in a perſon that lived in ſo much pain, and died with ſo much willingneſs, a pious end ought not to be lamented by us, otherwiſe than upon our own account; eſpecially ſince God, by vouchſafing him ſome years of retirement from the noiſe and hurry of the world, gave him leiſure and opportunity to ſet

ſet his mind and houſe in order, againſt the arrival of his great change. Theſe and the like conſiderations, do much contribute to call my thoughts, under this ſharp trial, as it relates perſonally to him, ſo that much of my ſorrow does, I confeſs, proceed from my own private loſs of ſo excellent a brother and a friend; and from the ſenſe I have of the general miſs that the poor country he lived in will find of him, and the particular loſs ſuſtained by his afflicted family, and eſpecially by you, my dear ſiſter, who being now, in a more ſtrict ſenſe than before, the great ſupport, ornament, and comfort of it, I humbly beſeech you to contribute all you can to preſerve ſo great a bleſſing to it; not ſo remembring that you were a wife, as to forget that you are a Chriſtian and a mother; and as you have exemplarily performed the utmoſt of what the firſt relation could require of you, ſo I hope and beg you will now apply yourſelf to what the two other relations exact: both ſtrive to moderate your grief, and take great care of a health, which your kindneſs has made you too much, and, I fear, too long neglect; and for the recovery of which a great many, beſides your own family, are not a little concerned, but none more heartily and juſtly than,

Madam, your ladyſhip's, *&c.*

I BEG to be repreſented as a moſt humble ſervant to all your diſconſolate children, whoſe pardon I beg, for not being able to write to them in particular upon ſo ſad an occaſion, which allows me not enough either of leiſure, or freedom of thoughts, for ſuch an employment. I wiſh my lord of *Orrery* much joy of his new title, and that he may ſucceed his father as well in better things as in that. Having been of late not well myſelf, I have made no viſits, but one to my brother *Burlington*, who kept his bed for the gout, and one to each of your daughters, whom I found (to day) as I expected, extremely troubled at their great loſs: but I hope that exceſs of ſorrow, that threatned their health, is ſo far moderated, that it will not now prove at all dangerous.

[To the Counteſs of *Orrery*, on the Earl's death, in *October* 1679.]

To the LADY ORRERY.

London, Nov. 28, 1682.

I LITTLE thought, my dear ſiſter, that ſo ſoon after I had ſent you a congratulatory letter about my poor lady *Donegal*, I ſhould have occaſion to write you a condoling one upon her account. But it is partly our fault, as well as our unhappineſs, if we ſo far forget the inſtability that human proſperity is ſubject to, as to be much ſurpriſed when we do not find it laſting. You have been of late years ſo accuſtomed to the loſs of friends, that it may reaſonably be ſuppoſed, that ſo much experience has not more exerciſed your patience than confirmed it. And the ſeveral accidents of this kind you have been ſubject to, would have put a perſon far leſs pious and conſiderate, upon reflections that doubtleſs would anticipate what I could offer to you by way of conſolation; which, therefore, I ſhall forbear to trouble you with: only I cannot leave unmentioned this, that is a great one to your friends and ſervants here, that they find, by a letter from ſo authentic a hand as my lord primate's, that though the perſon we lament died young and early, ſhe did not die ſurpriſed, nor unprepared; his grace giving ſuch an account of her behaviour during her ſickneſs, and eſpecially in the laſt ſad ſcene of it, as forbids us to grieve for her, but only for ourſelves and for you; to whom a divine ſupport, and a ſanctified uſe

of

of this affliction, is heartily wiſhed, by a ſharer with you in it, that begs the juſtice to be eſteemed, Madam,

Your ladyſhip's moſt humble,
moſt faithful and moſt
affectionate ſervant.

To Mr. CLODIUS.

SIR,

AS I could not ſupport the conſtancy of your ſilence but with a huge deal of uneaſineſs, ſo I receive not the honour of your letters, but with as much of joy. And indeed they are ſo obliging and inſtructive, that their philoſophy and their kindneſs do as well diſtract as deſerve my gratitude. I am little leſs than tranſported to find myſelf to have ſo great an intereſt in a perſon, that hath ſo great an intereſt in philoſophy; and in the ſame packet, in which I am aſſured by others of the ſublimity of your knowledge, to be aſſured by yourſelf of the conſtancy of your condeſcenſions and friendſhip. For the proceſſes you are pleaſed to ſend me of Mercurius vitæ, I return you my moſt humble thanks, and am extremely aſhamed to be able to return you little elſe; and that our commerce is ſo unequal, that I am almoſt confined but to receive what you ſo freely communicate. For alas! beſides, that though our opportunities and accommodations to improve our time were equal, the vaſt diſproportion of our intellectuals would keep me ſtill your diſciple; beſides that, I ſay, I live here in a barbarous country, where chemical ſpirits are ſo miſunderſtood, and chemical inſtruments ſo unprocurable, that it is hard to have any hermetic thoughts in it, and impoſſible to bring them to experiment: yet to ſhew at leaſt a willingneſs to acknowledge the favour of your antimonial preparations, I here incloſe you the proceſſes of the ſulphur of ſtella Martis, which you were pleaſed to deſire of me at our parting; and of the two proceſſes (from the ſame hand) the larger is the recenter, and ſeems the better. I might tell you of ſtrange matters this ſulphur has done in agues (even in quartans) and fevers; but I confeſs I look upon it but as a trifle in compariſon of the laudanum, the cinnabar, the drif, the ens Veneris ſaccharinum, and thoſe other higher arcana, which you, have either perfected or ſet about. And give me leave to tell you, that it is no weak evincement of my paſſion for and concern in your happineſs, that I can refrain envying you, whilſt every packet almoſt brings me the news of the great things you do and are undertaking; whilſt unhappy I am condemned to lead an uſeleſs life, in a country, where I can ſcarce get time to think of chemiſtry, much leſs opportunities to improve it. And certainly a detention here, that ſeparates me from Mr. *Clodius*, and ſo adds the pœna damni to the pœna ſenſus, would overpreſs my conſtancy, if I did not hope, that my ſtay in *Ireland* cannot be ſo long, as I know ſo great a diſtance from you will make me find it tedious; and if I did not alſo hope, that by a ſhort and neceſſary ſtay, to ſettle my affairs in this country, I may put myſelf in a condition of living out of it, and proſecute more undiſtractedly and effectually the ſtudy of real learning. You are extremely obliging in the tender ſenſe you expreſs of my yet continuing diſtempers, and no leſs my friend in the advice you give me to leave this unlucky country, and ſeek, under God, for a cure in a place, where you are pleaſed to offer me two things ſo conducive to my recovery, as your remedies and your converſation. And would to God, deareſt friend, my affairs were as ready for ſuch a journey as my inclinations: how would I fly to ſee the wonders I hear of, and enjoy that much wanted ſociety you were once pleaſed to vouchſafe, and are ſtill ſo free to offer me. But honeſt Mr. *Hartlib* can inform you

of the neceſſity of my ſtay here till the 24th of *June* be paſt; and of my unfitneſs till then to obey thoſe inclinations, that would inceſſantly carry one towards you. But as ſoon as the 24th of *June* is well paſt, I intend, if God bleſs me with life and health, to be either in *England*, or waiting for the firſt conveniency of tranſportation thither. Till then, a juſt impatience will extremely diſquiet me, if you be not ſo charitable as to vouchſafe me ſome of your converſation by letters, (whoſe length and frequency will moſt endear them:) and ſince this is the ſeaſon of the year, in which my diſtempers uſe moſt to infeſt me, you would very ſenſibly oblige me, if you have already prepared any of the medicines your letter mentions, to ſend me by the very firſt ſafe conveniency, as much as you ſhall think fit for my preſent perſonal uſe, with ſome directions how to take what you ſend. For my part, that I may not live wholly uſeleſs, or altogether a ſtranger in the ſtudy of nature, ſince I want glaſſes and furnaces to make a chemical analyſis of inanimate bodies, I am exerciſing myſelf in making anatomical diſſections of living animals: wherein (being aſſiſted by your father-in-law's ingenious friend Dr. *Petty*, our general's phyſician) I have ſatisfied myſelf of the circulation of the blood, and the (freſhly diſcovered and hardly diſcoverable) receptaculum chyli, made by the confluence of the venæ lacteæ; and have ſeen (eſpecially in the diſſections of fiſhes) more of the variety and contrivances of nature, and the majeſty and wiſdom of her author, than all the books I ever read in my life could give me convincing notions of. Deſigning, whilſt I am kept priſoner in *Ireland*, to proſecute that ſtudy, as I have opportunity; if there be any thing relating to it, wherein my knives may give you any ſatisfaction, I ſhall be very proud to employ them to ſo elevated an end. I have not been all this while unmindful of the commands, wherewith you were pleaſed to honour me, when I laſt kiſſed your hands, to enquire into the mineral advantages of *Ireland:* but in this illiterate country, I found all men ſo perfect ſtrangers to matters of that nature, that my enquiries have hitherto been as fruitleſs as diligent. But ſince my coming to this town, my endeavours have procured me ſome little information, and hopes of more. Of the ludus, that Dr. *Currer* had, I can yet learn nothing, nor yet of any mine of antimony. But for iron, I may be able to give you a good account of it, and to bring you over of the ore; my eldeſt brother having upon his land an iron work, that now yields him a good revenue; and I having upon my own land an iron mine, to which before the wars belonged a (ſince ruined) work, which I have thoughts of reſetting up. I am likewiſe told (but how truly, I know not yet) of a little ſilver mine lying in ſome land of mine; and very lately in a place, which belongs to a brother of mine, they have found ſilver ore very rich; for being tried, it is eſtimated, (as he tells me, that means to deal for it) at between 30 and 40 pounds a ton: but whether or no there be a mine of proportionable value, we do not yet know. I was yeſterday with an officer of the army, who farms a ſilver mine from the ſtate, who hath promiſed me what aſſiſtance he can in my mineral enquiries, and told me, that a metalliſt and refiner, whom he extolled with ſuperlative elogies, aſſured him, that there was no country in *Europe* ſo rich in mines as *Ireland*, had but the inhabitants the induſtry to ſeek them, and the ſkill to know them. If I ſhall in relation to this matter, or to any other, wherein my ſtay here may be any ways improveable to your ſervice, be honoured with any further or more particular inſtructions, I ſhall (God willing) by my forwardneſs to obey them, endeavour to manifeſt, that I am as highly as juſtly ambitious not to utter uſeleſsly the title of Mr. *Clodius*'s

Moſt affectionate friend, and
moſt obliged humble ſervant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

My

MY LORD, *May* 27, 1662.

YOU will not, I presume, think my silence strange, when I shall have acquainted your lordship, that the reasons of it have been partly, that I was informed, that the parliament of *Ireland* had adjourned itself for a long time, and partly because an honest gentleman of public employments, and very well versed in the affairs of that country, did some days after your lordship's departure hence, undertake to procure me, with all convenient speed, an account, how those impropriations, which are within the grant made me by his majesty are, or are like to be, provided of ministers and maintenance. And though the procuring me this account would, I knew, require some time; yet the requisiteness of it to assist me how to order myself on this unhappy occasion, made me unwilling to write to your lordship, till I had received it, and the adjournment of the parliament made me hope I might receive it seasonably enough: but being surprised since the last post with the news of the parliament's being met again, and of the quick progress that is making in the act for the settlements of *Ireland*; the promise I made your lordship at our separation, forbids me to delay to say something to you about the business we then discoursed of, but it is now too late at night, that I must not till a fitter opportunity enlarge upon particulars, but must make haste to inform your lordship, that having, as I told you I intended, applied myself to that excellent prelate the bishop of *Lincoln*, for his advice on so nice an occasion, I came upon the whole matter to this result, that the king's grant made to me having preceded both the grant made in the act to the church, and even the church's application to his majesty for that grant, I might justly challenge the impropriations mentioned in my proviso. (For as for the reference made by the king on the convention's address to the lords justices, and council in *Ireland*, they having never made any return upon it to the king, it signified nothing to debar another's right.) And therefore I would not have what I intend to do reflect upon those persons of honour, that (though unknown to me) made use of my name to obtain the grant from the king, since in such disputable cases, persons, that act very differently from one another, may yet all satisfy their own judgments and consciences in their proceedings. But in regard my intention in general was to apply an addition of revenue, if my friends procured any for me, to good uses, though, I confess, I designed it rather for the advancement of real learning, than to any other purpose; yet since it so falls out, that unknown to me it is cast upon impropriations, it is very likely, that by the account I expect of the state of them, I may see cause to make the more immediate service of religion, (by relieving the poor in those places, and contributing, if need be, towards the maintenance of ministers there, or elsewhere, or promoting other good works, as from time to time occasion may require) the principal of these good uses, to which I have thoughts to apply about two thirds of what will, de claro, come to me out of my share of this grant, (hoping also, that the other persons of honour, that are concerned in it, will have a care, that the impropriations, whose revenues are given them, be provided with ministers.) And I should possibly employ the other third part also the same way, but that his majesty has been pleased, without my seeking, (or so much as knowledge) to appoint me governor to a corporation for the propagating of the gospel among the heathen natives in *New England*, and the other parts of *America*. And this corporation being at great charges for several necessary works, and especially for the translating and printing of the Bible in the *Indian* tongue, above one half of their revenue is injuriously detained from them by a person, who had sold it to a corporation erected for the same purposes with our's, under the late usurping powers, and now has repossessed himself of his land, because those, that he sold it to, were not legally

legally qualified to have a ſale made to them. By which means ſo pious a deſign, as is purſued by this corporation, is now in danger to miſcarry for want of maintenance; ſo that the work being ſo charitable, and I having a peculiar call to promote it, I think, after having adviſed with the biſhop of *Lincoln* in the caſe, that it becomes me, on ſuch a juncture of circumſtances, to apply the other third part, or thereabouts, of what the king's grant will yield me for ſix or ſeven years at leaſt, to the carrying on of ſo unqueſtionably good a work; ſo that the main benefit I intend to derive from the king's bounty, is the opportunity of doing ſome good with what, if my friends had not obtained it, might have been begged by others, who would have otherways employed it. And by this, I hope, your lordſhip will be confirmed in the belief of what I formerly aſſured you of, namely, that had I known, that any thing was aſked for me, whoſe grant would have been prejudicial or unwelcome to the church, I ſhould not have conſented to have my name made uſe of for a much greater matter, than the proviſo is like to yield me. And the ſame day your lordſhip did me the honour to inform me of the ſtate of the caſe, I offered ſome of the parties concerned to relinquiſh the grant, though it had already paſſed the king and council, ſo I nor my name might have nothing to do with it; but one of the intereſted parties being then too far off to be conſulted, the proffer was declined. From all which I hope your lordſhip will do me the right to conclude, that I was far from deſigning the prejudice of the church; and that though it cannot in reaſon be expected, that I ſhould do any thing to hinder the other perſons concerned in my proviſo to purſue the having it paſſed, and to enjoy the benefit of it; yet I do not at all deſire, that either your lordſhip, or any other perſon, that thinks the proviſo may be juſtly excepted againſt upon the church's behalf, ſhould, for my ſake, at all abſtain from acting and ſpeaking as his judgment and conſcience ſhall direct him: for as my partners are, and, I think, not cauſleſsly, confident of being able to carry on in *Ireland* that, which has already paſſed the ſcrutiny here; ſo, for my part, all I pretend to, by this grant, is, to have the power in my own hands, to ſee, that the proceed of it be carefully employed to the good uſes whereto I deſign it. And if in the management of this buſineſs my ignorance of the affairs of *Ireland*, to which you know how much I have been of late years a ſtranger, has in any thing miſguided me, I hope your lordſhip's goodneſs, and the fairneſs of my intentions, will incline you to make, and perſuade others to do the like, the beſt conſtruction of the actions of a perſon, that is ſo much,

My lord,

your lordſhip's moſt humble,

and moſt affectionate ſervant.

SIR,

IN the ſtrange ſtory you did me the favour laſt week to entertain me with, there were ſome paſſages ſo ſingular and remarkable, that I cannot but renew the requeſt I then made you, that you would gratify me with an entire narrative of ſo memorable a tranſaction. And becauſe you were pleaſed very forwardly, and therefore very obligingly, to grant my requeſt, I may well forbear to ſolicit the performance of your promiſe; and ſhall only add ſomething about the manner, wherein I think it neceſſary to beg it may be performed; which, in the general, is, that, at leaſt, the main circumſtances of the relation may be impartially delivered, and ſufficiently verified, either upon your own knowledge, or by the judicial records, or other competent vouchers; for we live in an age, and a place, wherein all ſtories of witchcrafts, or

other magical feats, are by many, even of the wiſe, ſuſpected; and by too many, that would paſs for wits, derided and exploded. And I have ſeen cauſe to think, ſo great a part of the vulgar ſtories, that have been confidently related, and greedily enough catched up, to have ill deſerved the entertainment they met with among well-meaning, but over-eaſy perſons, that I ſcarce believe one of twenty to be true, looking upon the other nineteen, as either falſe or ſuſpicious; nor, perhaps, ſhould I have excepted the twentieth, if I had not had particular and conſiderable advantages to perſuade me, upon good grounds, that, though moſt of theſe ſtories be untrue, yet they are not all ſo, when I conſider, and am juſtly ſenſible, that to grant or deny, that there are intelligent beings, that are not ordinarily viſible, does much conduce to the reclaiming or confirming of atheiſts; I cannot but think, that thoſe men, in ſpite of their good meaning, have much diſſerved religion, and have obtruded upon the world ſo many improbable and ill-verified ſtories of witches and ſorceries, and that they took very wrong meaſures, in preſuming, that the multitude of ſuch relations would compenſate their want of credibility; whereas, on the contrary, ſome, among ſo many, being eaſily diſcovered to be falſe or dubious, did not only make atheiſts exclaim, but even judicious Chriſtians ſuſpect, that the reſt were of the ſame kind. I hope, therefore, Sir, that your intended narration will reſume the credit of this kind of ſtories in the opinions of unbiaſſed men, by having its circumſtances warranted with teſtimonies and authorities, which, the nature of the thing conſidered, may ſuffice to ſatisfy thoſe that are diffident, out of cautiouſneſs, not prejudice. That this will be a good ſervice to religion, may be eaſily gueſſed by the great care that atheiſts take to diſcredit all ſtories of this kind, as the products of impoſture, ignorance, or credulity: for if it could be proved, that moſt of them, as I fear it of too many of them, are of this ſtamp, yet any one relation of a ſupernatural phænomenon being fully proved, and duly verified, ſuffices to evince the thing contended for; and, conſequently, to invalidate ſome of the atheiſts plauſibleſt arguments: and, indeed, the foundation of them, as ſuppoſing the truth of what is aſſerted by many, as eye-witneſſes, and has been particularly affirmed to be by the illuſtrious count of *Walleſtein*, his imperial majeſty's miniſter here, that the famous frier *Wencel* has ſeveral times actually made tranſmutations of baſer metals into gold, in the preſence of the emperor, and divers noblemen and good chemiſts; ſuppoſing the truth of this, I ſay, this one poſitive inſtance will better prove the reality of what they call the philoſopher's ſtone, than all the cheats and fictions, wherewith pretending chemiſts have deluded the unſkilful and the credulous, will prove, that there can be no ſuch thing as the elixir, nor no ſuch operation as they call projection; and upon ſuch a ſcore, I doubt not, but one circumſtantial narrative, fully verified, ſuch as I hope and deſire that yours may prove, will be preferred by the curious and judicious, to a hundred improbable, and ſlightly atteſted ones; ſince one cogent inſtance will evince, what a multitude of queſtionable ones have ſerved but to render the more ſuſpicious; I might add, that ſome of the particulars you mentioned to me, as (eſpecially) thoſe of the inſenſible marks of witches, and the way of detecting them, may ſuggeſt odd ſpeculations to a naturaliſt, and help to enlarge the ſomewhat too narrow conceptions men are wont to have of the amplitude and variety of the works of God; ſince, if it appear, that there are intelligent agents that are able to increaſe; whereas men can but determine the motions of the parts of matter, the diſcovery of it may advantageouſly enlarge our knowledge, though not, perhaps, in phyſics, ſtrictly ſo called, yet in philoſophy; and therefore, by granting me this circumſtantial and well verified account I requeſt, of the ſupernatural phænomena you have taken notice of, you may be ſure

to

to oblige a great many curious persons, besides him, that you will in a particular manner engage to be, and to express himself, upon all occasions,

SIR,

September 18, 1677. your most affectionate, and most humble servant.

[To Mr. *Joseph Glanville.*]

To Mr. GLANVILLE.

SIR, *London, February* 10, 1677-8.

NOT daring yet to remove into the new built part of this house, the little room I am now confined to, reduces me to keep my books and papers too much huddled together. This notice, I hope, will obtain your pardon, for my not having earlier acknowledged the favour of your obliging letter, since I thought fit it should be accompanied by one such paper as you write for, and which it cost some time to find. I have heard many stories of things, that have happened within less than the memory of man, in *Ireland*, that would accommodate your design; but there was but one of them, which, by reason of some odd circumstances belonging to it, and of the acquaintance I had with one or two of the chief witnesses mentioned in it, gave me the curiosity to enquire more fully into the truth of it: to satisfy myself about which, I made use of the credit of some of my friends, that were then of great authority in that kingdom; and if I much misremember not, a transaction that passed years ago: it was my brother *Orrery*, who was then president of the province of *Munster*, (which was the scene of our story) that procured me, from the judge himself, the authentic account that I now communicate to you. This you gave me a strong invitation to put into your hands, by assuring me, that in the collection, where you intend it shall have a place, you are very careful to deliver none but well attested narratives; the want of which cautiousness has justly discredited many relations of witches and sorceries, and made most of the rest suspected; since in such stories, the number of the whole can no way compensate the want of truth, or of proof in some of the particulars; and a few narratives, cogently verified, will procure greater credit to the cause they are brought to countenance, than a far greater number of stories, whereof some, though never so few, are false; and others, though perhaps not many, suspicious. But, Sir, you know too well the disposition of those you would convince, to need to be advertised, not to give any advantage to men, that are like to be very apt to seek, and much more to take it; which may be easily discerned by that very report, which, in answer to the latter part of your letter, I must take notice of, by telling you, that I know not who should give out, that I have of late disowned the story of the demon of *Mascon* as a clear imposture. For, whatever I may have thought of some incidental passages in the printed book, yet, as to the main story itself, the conversation I had with the author, when the thing was pretty fresh in men's memories, and the notoriety of divers of the circumstances, surmounted my indisposition to believe such things; and of late years, I remember not that I have had occasion to discourse much of it, much less to disown it; especially after a learned and intelligent traveller, that some years ago passed by that town, and afterwards visited me, informed me, that he found upon the place itself, just motives to believe the truth of it. The direction you send me, to address my letters to you, at your house, in the college at *Worcester*, makes me suspect, that you have some preferment there, whose title I am

a ſtranger to; and therefore I hope you will eaſily grant me your pardon, if, in the ſuperſcription, it be omitted, by,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant.

To MONSIEUR LA MARCHE at CAEN.

MONSIEUR, *London, June* 15, 1682.

THIS week I received yours of the 30th of *April*; and having now a direction how to addreſs a letter to you, I muſt no longer delay giving you notice, that, though I ſuppoſe you may have had ſome deſign, as well to gratify me, as to advantage yourſelf, by ſending me the paper incloſed in your letter, yet, upon peruſal of it, I cannot think the proceſs probable enough to deſerve to be wrought; for it ſeems to me, (who am not altogether unacquainted with things of that nature) that the means are no way ſufficient to produce ſuch effects as are aimed at by them; and therefore I am apt to think, that whoever gave you that proceſs, either had a mind to delude you, or was himſelf very ignorant in metalline affairs, or at leaſt intended to conceal his meaning, whilſt he uſed expreſſions that ſeemed intelligible and clear enough. As for your deſign of getting an employment here, to inſtruct young gentlemen, the late perſecution of the poor *Hugonots* in *France* has brought ſo many of them into this country, who deſire the like employment, that it will not be very eaſy for you to find ſuch a condition as you wiſh. But, though I have ſome reaſon not to take it very kindly, that when I wrote to you three or four years ago, about Mr. *Pierre des Cloſets*, and ſeemed much concerned to receive an anſwer, (and therefore, if I miſtake not, wrote more than once) you never vouchſafed me a line of anſwer: yet, if now you ſhall think fit to give monſieur who will be as ſoon as this letter in your parts, the beſt aſſiſtance you can, to recover all the papers of mine, that are to be found among thoſe of your great friend monſieur *Pierre*, or wherever you know any of them are, (and which ought in juſtice to be reſtored to me) you will find, that you have not gratified an unthankful perſon, and, that this will be the readieſt way you could take, to engage me to ſerve you, on thoſe occaſions, that may be offered to,

SIR,

your humble ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

To Mr. CHRISTOPHER KIRKBY.

SIR,

THOUGH I have not the vanity to think, that my opinion ought to be much conſidered, in the queſtion you have propoſed to me; yet, ſince you are pleaſed to require my thoughts about it, I ſhall, without heſitation, aſſure you, that I have long been, and ſtill am, of opinion, that the act of *Henry* the IVth has been, and, whilſt it ſhall remain in force, will be, a great diſcouragement to the induſtry of ſkilful men, which is very happily improved in this inquiſitive age. And therefore, that the repealing of a law, ſo darkly and ambiguouſly penned, will much conduce to the public good, and be in particular advantageous to the counties of *Cornwall* and *Devonſhire*,

Devonſhire, where tin ſo much abounds, that it is (as you well know) a drug; is as well hoped, as it is heartily wiſhed, by,

SIR,

London, April 29, 1689.

your moſt humble and affectionate ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

To MONSIEUR LE CLERC.

SIR, *London, May* 30, 1689.

AFTER the many judicious extracts you have made of *Engliſh* books, I think I may preſume, that ſo great a linguiſt as Monſieur *Le Clerc*, is not unacquainted with the language of this country. And therefore I ſhall not ſcruple to employ it now, that I have an inviting opportunity to return you my humble and deſerved thanks for the rich preſents you have been pleaſed to ſend me, both by Dr. *Abercromby*, and ſince by other hands. Theſe learned volumes are looked upon here, as deſerving the title they bear, of *Univerſal Library*; which I wiſh I could as eaſily contribute to, as I can readily applaud it. But, beſides the general acknowledgments I owe you, for other learned and curious pieces, I think myſelf obliged to pay you particular thanks for that, which you did me the favour to ſend me, about the poetry of the *Hebrews*. For though the weakneſs of my eyes has diſabled me, for ſome years, from proſecuting the ſtudy of that ſacred language, whereof I formerly was a cultivator; yet I have not ſo much forgot, what I once knew of it, but that I can diſcern your hypotheſis to be, at leaſt, a very happy and ingenious conjecture; and ſuch it has been eſteemed here by much more competent judges than I pretend to be. The late public revolutions in theſe parts, have ſo buſied, and indeed engroſſed men's thoughts, diſcourſes, and pens, that very little has of late appeared from the preſs, beſides pamphlets, and other tracts, about political affairs, and oaths relating to them. And therefore I hope you will have the goodneſs to impute it to that cauſe, that this letter comes to you unattended by any philoſophical productions of this place. And, for my own particular, the want of health has, for this great while, ſo confined me to my lodgings, and ſo long expoſed me to a multitude of viſits, that rob me of all leiſure, that I have not been able to ſend any thing of that kind to the Royal Society, except a paper about a new way of ſuddenly producing flame by the bare contact of three bodies, each of them actually cold. The experiments contained in this writing are not yet made public, nor brought back to my hands; but, as ſoon as they ſhall come abroad, either in the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, or otherwiſe, I ſhall, God permitting, lay hold of the firſt conveniency of tranſmitting them to you, as a teſtimony, though but a mean one, of the reſpect and gratitude of,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

Worthy DOCTOR, *London, Oct.* 8, 1691.

IF you knew how very ill my ſiſter and I have been, ſince you left this place, you would not wonder, that you have not had from me an enquiry, how you bore your journey to *Saliſbury*; and whether you now enjoy the benefit of it, by the recovery of your health, wherein very many, and I moſt particularly, are concerned. Excuſe then, I beſeech you, my paſt ſilence, and give me, if you can, the contentment of an aſſurance, under your own hand, that you are well, which will be a great cordial

to

to me. If I had known of your going ſo ſoon, I ſhould have furniſhed you with ſpirit of hartſhorn, and ſome other trifles, that you are pleaſed to let me provide you here. And therefore, if you want any thing now of that kind, be pleaſed to command it of me. Your conſtant kindneſs to me, and the benefits I have received from your ſkill and experience in your profeſſion, urge me to acquaint you with the diſtemper in my eyes, that did much ſurpriſe me, and does ſtill much afflict me, having continued with me for about a month. The caſe in ſhort is this; in the day time, I ſee, thanks be to God, as I uſe to do, and ſo till five o'clock in the afternoon; but then, as ſoon as candles are brought in, I find a very ſenſible decay in my ſight; ſo that, though I can ſee all the ſame groſs objects as I did before, and could, if I durſt, read printed books, as I have often tried, yet the reflection from thoſe objects is not vivid, as it was wont to be; and if I look upon ſomewhat diſtant objects, methinks I ſee them through a thin miſt, or a little ſmoke; but when the candles are newly ſnuffed, and ſo the light increaſed, I ſee far better, for a little while, till it begin to have more ſnuff: this diſtemper continues, as long as I make uſe of candle-light, but the next morning, by God's goodneſs, I find myſelf as before, only now and then there ſeems to fall ſlowly down, ſometimes in one eye, and ſometimes in another, a faintly ſhining vapour, which immediately diſappears. I have ſuch apparitions of late, for theſe two or three years, without any bad conſequence. What this diſtemper may proceed from, I know not, though I remember I have heard you more than once take notice of the narrowneſs of my pupil. Sight is a thing ſo dear to all men, and eſpecially to ſtudious perſons, that I earneſtly beg, you would be pleaſed to conſider my caſe deliberately, and acquaint me with your thoughts of the cauſe; and more particularly, to ſend preſcriptions of the receipts you would have me employ, and your directions what elſe you would have me do towards the cure of it. I have had too much trial of your friendſhip, to doubt, that, upon ſo important an occaſion, you will refuſe me the effects of it, which will exceedingly add to your former favours, and oblige me to ſtudy the ways of ſhewing myſelf,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate
and moſt humble ſervant.

I HAVE, of yours, the water for clearing the ſight, which I much eſteem, and have more than once uſed; but I ſometimes uſe, upon your authority, a little honey diluted with ſuccory; but I much want the conſtant eye-water, to be uſed every night, or oftner, eſpecially if it may be fitted for the preſent ſtate of my eyes; and therefore beg, that you would be pleaſed to preſcribe me one, that I may make here. I forgot to tell you, that, for ſome months laſt paſt, I have been much troubled with what they call vapours, or fumes of the ſpleen, and with ſome ſcorbutic diſaffections.

[This was one of his laſt letters, and was ſent probably to Dr. *Turberville*, a famous oculiſt of *Saliſbury*, of whom mention is made by him, in a letter to Mr. *Oldenburg*, *Aug.* 29, 1664.]

Minutes of a Letter to SCHOTTUS.

THAT his welcome letter of ſuch a date, was, I know not by what accident, long detained by the way, as I preſume our learned friend, Dr. *Schroter*, may have informed him.

THAT this is the reaſon, why I did not ſooner let him know, that I thought it a great happineſs, that my poor endeavours have met with ſo much acceptance among the

the virtuoſi abroad, and particularly, that they ſhould procure me the honour of ſo obliging a letter, from a ſtranger, ſo famous and learned, as he, to whom I am glad of this opportunity to return my humble thanks for thoſe learned writings, wherewith he has obliged the curious; and particularly for his *Magia Mechanica*.

THAT I long to ſee his works increaſed by the acceſſion of his *Technica curioſa*; towards which, I fear, I ſhall not contribute much, both becauſe of my being no better ſtocked with rarities than I am, and becauſe I know not what particular ſubjects he treats of in it. But ſince he is pleaſed to expreſs a deſire of making uſe of my pneumatical epiſtle therein, I ſhall freely leave it to his diſcretion, to preſerve as much of my book as he thinks fit, in a work that will be ſo laſting as that he deſigns. And ſince he is pleaſed to expreſs a curioſity, which I fear they diſcern not, of honouring the reſt of my books with his peruſal, I ſhall take care to put as many of them as are tranſlated into *Latin* in the hands of Dr. *Schroter*, to whom *Schottus*'s recommendation, as well as his own merit, will make me a ſervant. In the mean time, I have obeyed his commands to our aſſembly (now called the Royal Society) to which, I can aſſure him, that his great civilities have been very welcome, and that they are very thankfully reſented by it.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR,

AS you begin your letter by a complaint of the retarding of the preſs, for want of the paper of colours, ſo I muſt begin mine by acknowledging, that you have reaſon to complain of it, and by adding, that yet it was not my fault; for I have been careful to lay aſide eight or ten ſheets that I had peruſed, to re-deliver them to you, when I came to take leave of you, at my going out of town. But having laid them by, on the table, on purpoſe to have them in readineſs, and diſtinguiſh them from other papers that were to be ſent to *Oxford*, they were, by the miſtake of one of my ſervants, put up in a box, among ſome other writings, which I could not come at till now, that I am returned hither, where, that box being opened before my other things, I took out the roll of papers, which is already ſent away to Mr. *Herringman*, who is to receive the remaining ſheets, by the latter end of this week, if I can poſſibly diſpatch them ſo ſoon; at leaſt, he ſhall not fail, God willing, to have them ſent to him before the middle of the next week; which will be ſooner than the preſs will be ready for them. Your letter I found very ſeaſonably here, to refreſh me, after a weariſome journey, where I had far leſs opportunity than I hoped for, to improve my little ſtock of knowledge, the ſeaſon being ſo far advanced, that I durſt not go viſit the mines at *Mendip*; and ſome ill accident or other having denied me the viſit I promiſed myſelf from our ingenious friend Mr. *Beale*, to whom I ſent on purpoſe a meſſenger, that brought me back a letter, which bid me expect his coming, in caſe a diſtemper, that then detained him, ſhould not increaſe; ſo that my diſappointment being an argument of his indiſpoſition, was more unwelcome to me upon the account of its cauſe than of itſelf. If you have heard any good news of him, you will oblige me, to acquaint me with it. I find them in *Dorſetſhire* far more ſolicitous to ſtore themſelves with fruit, than when I was laſt in thoſe parts; and my gardener has made a nurſery upon ſome land that he rents, which furniſhes moſt of the neighbouring gentry, and lets me ſee, how much induſtry may advance at once the private and the public good. I was viſited by the ingenious Dr. *Highmore*, from whom I had ſome odd anatomical obſervations, wherewith I may hereafter acquaint you. I ſhall rather tell you now, that he is a great floriſt, and finds by experience,

perience, which, I remember, has been likewiſe taught me by another eminently ſkilled in huſbandry, that there is ſcarce any mould comparable, for flowers, to the earth, which is digged from under old ſtacks of wood, or other places, where rotten wood has long lain. I have beſpoken ſome potatoe apples againſt the ſeaſon. There has been found, not many miles from my houſe, a ſpring of purging water, and another, that works like *Tunbridge* water; but not hearing of them till I was leaving the country, all I could do, was to deſire one to ſend after me a bottle of that which was the moſt eaſy to come by. If I receive it, I ſhall endeavour to examine it. I was viſited at *Saliſbury* by the deſervedly famous oculiſt Dr. *Taberville*, who has attained ſo much ſkill in the cure of diſtempers of the eyes, and performed ſuch remarkable things in thoſe caſes, that, being unable, as yet, to perſuade him to live conſtantly in *London*, I have perſuaded him to go thither, one or twice, at leaſt, every year; and that at ſet times, that men may know when to find him; and to ſtay there ſome weeks at a time, that he may be able to perfect ſome cures before his return. The water of that town being very famous, for making better ale than can be made with other waters, I had the curioſity to weigh it with a good pair of gold ſcales; but have not yet had time to compare it with other waters, than which it ſeemed ſomewhat more clear and light. Since my return hither, viſits, and the unpacking of my books and implements, have left me ſo little time for other things, that I begin to wonder, how I have got ſo much as to trouble you with ſo long a ſcribble, which, ſince I began this laſt clauſe, I am ſummoned to releaſe you from, by forthwith ſubſcribing myſelf,

SIR,

Oxford, Aug. 29, 1664.

your very affectionate friend, and very humble ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

POSTSCRIPT.

I RETURN you my humble thanks for your ingenious communications, divers of which I locked not up from the virtuoſo here, and of which I cannot but deſire the continuation. What the poſtſcript of your letter mentions, in reference to ſuch matters, will not, if I can help it, be forgotten, upon an opportunity to ſerve the perſon concerned. I find not, in the tranſlated papers that yet remain, that you have gone beyond the end of the 49th Experiment; for at the 50th there is three quarters of a ſide vacant, under the title Exp. 50; and that is the laſt page I have of yours. I have written to Mr. *Herringman*, to the purpoſe that was deſired at our parting, and I preſume he will readily comply.

IF you have heard any thing farther concerning the tranſlation of the Bible into the *Turkiſh* tongue, I ſhall be glad to be informed of it; for, in caſe you hear nothing that may divertiſe, Mr. *Seymore* and I reſolved, by God's permiſſion, to proceed, as ſoon as we ſhall be informed, either what farther anſwer you have received about it, or that you have received none.

I FORGOT to tell you, that I did not forget to ſpeak to Dr. *Wallis*, who has received the commands of the Society, and will be very ready to comply with them, about the papers of Mr. *Horrox*; with which I find he is ſo much pleaſed, that he does not a little regret the untimely death of ſo hopeful an aſtronomer.

MY moſt humble ſervice to my lord *Brouncker*, Sir *Ro. Moray*, Dr. *Wilkins*, and the reſt of my *Greſham* friends.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR,

THE news you were pleaſed to ſend me from *Guinea* I do, with you, look on as very conſiderable; and I am much of your mind too, in what you conjecture about the conſequences of it. I ſhould have told you, in my laſt, that I am very glad Monſieur *de la Quintenaye*'s ways of improving fruit-trees have ſucceeded ſo well; and more, that he gives us hopes of communicating them to the world, or, at leaſt, to the Society. And as to what he deſires concerning an *Iriſh* greyhound, though the breed of them be now almoſt worn out, yet when my ſiſter *Ranelagh* (who has, eſpecially at this time, far more correſpondence in *Ireland* than I have) ſhall be returned to *London*, you may command me to try what by her means may be done. I have received the papers you ſent me concerning weather-glaſſes, and have a little altered the titles, to make them more ſuitable to the *Hiſtory of Cold*, whereunto I deſign to prefix them, as preliminaries. One of the three diſcourſes into which they are divided I have already read over, and ſo can diſpatch to you by the firſt conveniency, that the printer may forthwith fall to work; the other two I was hindered from reviewing this day, but intend to diſpatch it ſo ſoon after the former, that the preſs ſhall not ſtay for it. And though I have not, even at *Oxford*, half ſo much time at command as you may think, and I could wiſh, yet I chuſe rather to defraud my other ſtudies, than not allow daily ſome time to the finiſhing of what I have by me of the hiſtory of cold, wherein I have made a progreſs, which, though inferior to what I intended, will yet, I hope, enable me to ſend away all that is at this time to be publiſhed before the 10th (perhaps before the 1ſt) of *November*. To the learned and induſtrious Dr. *Merret* you will oblige me to preſent my humble ſervice, and to let him know, that if I had found his Chriſtian name at length in his own book, I ſhould have given it him in my letter: but though I gave him not his right name, yet, I preſume, it will not be thought I wronged him in the name I gave him. But (raillery apart) I think it were not amiſs that his ingenious obſervations be printed in the ſame letter and volume with my hiſtory, but in an alphabet by itſelf: for, by this means, theſe two differing pieces need not ſtay for one another, but the preſs may go on with them both (which will ſave time) and, in the interim, it will be eaſy to reſolve which of the two ſhall be premiſed. The obſervations of huſbandry you were pleaſed to ſend me, I intend to add to thoſe others that I received from the ſame hand before. And, leſt this letter ſhould be altogether barren, I will on this occaſion add, that having in ſeveral places been inquiſitive about the phænomena of the ſenſitive plant, I learned of a very induſtrious perſon (though no ſcholar) that it may be, and has actually (and that of late too) been propagated, even in our climate, otherwiſe than by ſeed. The way is eaſy, though ſomewhat odd; and, which moſt recommends it, agreeable to his own experience: but it is ſo late at night that I have not time to ſet it down particularly.

I OWE you many thanks for the trouble you were pleaſed to put yourſelf to, of writing ſo concernedly to *Amſterdam* about the *Turkiſh* Bible: and though, upon the advertiſement you gave me from thence ſome weeks ago, we had thoughts of deſiſting from our endeavours here, leſt *B. Warnerus*'s labours ſhould prevent ours, or blaſt them: nevertheleſs, ſince his own friends at *Amſterdam* do not know that that worthy man, as yet, has done any thing upon the New Teſtament, and ſince they themſelves not only allow of, but wiſh for our proceeding, we are not willing to be diſcouraged from ſo charitable a work as that we were upon. But as we have a great reſpect for *B. Warnerus*, and his moſt laudable attempt, ſo we are willing to deal

openly and candidly with his friends at *Amſterdam*; and to this end, as they will much oblige us to ſend us over a printed ſheet of his edition, if they have any one in their hands, ſo we intend, by the next poſt, to give you the trouble of ſending to them a printed ſheet of ours, that if they, or any friend of theirs, be ſufficiently ſkilled in the *Turkiſh* tongue, to make a judgment of it, we may have their ſenſe upon it, and their advice touching any thing which they think may be either corrected or amended: and ſuch reflections of theirs we ſhall receive as favours, and the rather, becauſe I find, by ſome letters of a freſher date than yours, that when our *Turkey* merchants heard that I had thoughts of deſiſting from what I was upon, ſome of them ſhewed themſelves more heartily concerned that ſuch a work ſhould not be laid down, but be vigorouſly carried on, than I and my friends here expected. I ſent away your letter to Dr. *Wallis*, who indeed deſerves the thanks of the Society, for the great pains he took about Mr. *Horrox*'s papers. What apparatus we ſhall have to obſerve the conjunction, I cannot yet tell: for though he and I were twice at the ſchools, to take a view of the implements of the obſervatory, yet we could not get in, the key having been, by ſome miſtake or negligence, either loſt or carried away. But if it cannot be found to-morrow, I mean to urge the having the door broken open, that the commands of the Society may be, as far as we are able, obeyed by him, and by,

SIR,

your very affectionate and
very humble ſervant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

[This letter was wrote about the beginning of *October* 1664.]

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Oxford, Sept.* 8, 1665.

AS I was laſt *Saturday* in the evening diſpoſing myſelf to write to you, I was hindred by the unexpected arrival of my lord and lady *Clifford*, and ſince that have been tied to ſo much attendance on my lord chancellor, my lady *Clarendon*, and her new daughter-in-law, my lord chamberlain, and others, that went away but this day, that I have been fain, though very unwillingly, to omit acknowledging the favour of your letter, wherein I found that I had cauſe to return you my thanks for your reſentment of an information, wherein you ſuppoſed me concerned, though indeed I were not at all ſo: for neither do I believe that any ſuch thing as our worthy friend Dr. *Beale* was told, was at all deſigned; neither, if it had been propoſed, would it have been much welcomed. I did, as I promiſed you, take out my burning-glaſs, which, though but of ten inches in diameter, is made of ſo good a metal and figure, that it will not only in a moment almoſt kindle an ordinary ſtick of wood, but in a trice melt laminated lead, and in a ſhort time colour bright iron or ſteel, and make it ſmoke, and will perform divers other things, of which, I remember, I have ſome where ſet down ſome memorials. I preſume I may in my next tell you the diameter of ſome of thoſe concaves that they yet have in *Italy*, there being here ſome perſons lately come from *Rome*, that have let me know they mean to viſit me; and I confeſs, I think the making of ſuch burning-glaſſes not unworthy to be encouraged, being apt to imagine, that if I had one of them, I could make it, in more ſenſes than one, condenſe the beams of light. If your friend be maſter of any of them, I would gladly have a few experiments (not difficult) recommended to his trial, having already collected divers obſervations of that ſort, but made with ſmaller glaſſes, in what I formerly

formerly writ about heat and flame. I was lately making some trials with the petrified wood I told you of, which I find to be a very odd substance, wonderfully hard and fixed; and I have got also a parcel that looks like iron ore, and is very heavy. If I had opportunity to reprint the *History of the Fluidity and Firmness*, which I have often been sollicited to do, I could add divers things about stones, that perhaps would not be disliked; and I hope, if God vouchsafe me a little leisure, to insert several of them in fit places of that history, against the next edition. Here is a certain stone, that is thought to be petrified bone, being shaped like a bone with the marrow taken out; but with a fit menstruum I found that I could easily dissolve it, like other soft stones: and possibly it may prove as fit as ostiocolla for the same medicinal uses. I am much obliged to those virtuosi in *France*, that are pleased to entertain so favourable an opinion of my poor endeavours to gratify such as they; but I have not of late had any opportunity to prosecute my studies vigorously, the perpetual resort of *English* strangers, and the want of glasses, and other mechanical employments, leaving me neither leisure nor accommodations suitable to my desires and design: yet, if I had not forgot it, I should a fortnight ago have told you, that, among some hydrostatical things I was once pursuing, I bethought myself of an easy slight instrument, which I called the measuring (or stereometrical) balance, whereby I can, without rule or compasses, *&c.* or calculation, measure with greater exactness than by the geometrical ways, the magnitude of smaller bodies, whether regular, or as irregular as you please. Of this I may hereafter tell you more, if God permit; in the mean time begging you to take notice of the date of this, I must, to conclude with my paper, subscribe myself abruptly,

SIR, yours, *&c*

R. B.

DOCTOR *Wallis* desires, that, if you have any conveniency, you would do him the favour, the first opportunity, to convey the inclosed according to the address (he not knowing how otherwise to get it sent) in which request I join with him.

To Mr. OLDENBURGH.

SIR, *March* 19, 1665.

THIS afternoon, before I had got an opportunity to acknowledge yours of the 13th, I received another of the 17th, and must now return you my humble thanks for both together. And to answer the former first, I wonder not there should be a mistake in the barometrical paper I sent you, the haste I was in having kept me from reading it over; which mistake lying but in one word, is easily mended, by putting instead of the other, and of the varying weight, *&c.* the other causes of the varying weight, *&c.* But the transcript you are pleased to send me of this passage, lets me see that in those words, to a greater height in the air, the three last words, *viz.* (in the air) should have been omitted. Since the observations came not time enough, it is possible I may be able to add a few more to them, before your next come abroad. I have been able to procure so little account, so much as of the country, where *Bombay* is seated in the *East-Indies*, that I can supply you with no queries about it. And as for *Dantziek*, there are only two enquiries that now come into my mind concerning timber; the one is, whether the learned *Hevelius*, or his friends, have ever observed what I have met with in a modern author of very good account, that lumps of amber have been taken up, within whose middlemost parts, when the hard outside was broken, there has been found pretty store of uncoagulated naptha, or bitumen:

and this I rather take to be a considerable query, because of the other I am to subjoin, which is, whether it have been observed that pieces of amber have been taken up sticking almost like gum to great pieces of the barks of trees: for more than this is affirmed upon his own repeated observation, by one of the judiciousest travellers I have yet read. But now I speak of queries for foreign countries, I must beg your pardon, that my haste made me forget the last time to send you, as I intended, a paper of general queries: it belongs to one of the essays of the unpublished part of the *Usefulness*, &c. and therefore possibly may not so much answer your expectation, as if it had been written entirely for your purpose. But perhaps, too, it may serve your turn pretty well, especially with a little addition, which if you make use of it, I can afford it. I have somewhere some specimens of particular enquiries, subordinated to some of the more principal articles of inquisition, which I shall scarce take the pains to look out, till I know whether the paper I now send may be use of to you. If you have occasion to take any public notice of it, be pleased to intimate to what treatise it belongs. I am very much obliged to my lord *Brouncker*, for the favourable acceptance and character he has vouchsafed my hydrostatical trifles; and I am glad his lordship's observations agree with mine, about the great height of the quicksilver in droughts: but I forgot, and was sorry I did so, to tell you in my hastily-written paper, that one cause of that height I suspected may be, the elevation of steams from the crust, or superficial parts of the earth, which by little and little may add to the weight of the atmosphere, being not, as in other seasons, carried down from time to time by the falling rain, to which it agrees not ill, what I had since, namely this week, occasion to observe. For whereas about this day sev'nnight at *Oxford*, the quicksilver was higher than, for ought I know, has been yet observed in *England*, viz. above $\frac{5}{16}$ above 30 inches, upon the first considerable showers that have interrupted our long drought, as I foretold divers hours before, that the quicksilver would be very low, a blustering wind concurring with the rain, so I found it here at *Stanton* to fall $\frac{3}{8}$ beneath 29. This you may, if you think fit, add to the other observations, or communicate with my humble service to the worthy Dr. *Beale*, of some of whose ingenious conjectures, perhaps, I could already give you an account; but having not time to do it, I must defer it till God grant us a meeting, and then we may discourse about the other business you write of, which I am very willing to defer till that time. In the interim, if you translate your *Transactions* into *Latin*, I shall gladly receive a seasonable notice of it before-hand, that I may now and then be the better able to serve you in them. I expect to-morrow some books of the *Origin of Forms* ready, and hope this week to send you one, as you desire; which is all that can in this paper be told you by,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,
and very humble servant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *October* 17, 1667.

I THINK you have pitched upon a good course about the catalogue of my writings; only if you mention it at all, you may be pleased to remember to add to the reference, that the two tracts of the *Origin of Forms*, and of *Hydrostatical Paradoxes*, mentioned in the catalogue you speak of, annexed at the end of the *History of Cold*, came forth since that history. I hinted to you in my last something about the original of the experiments

experiments made in *Italy*, by injecting acid liquors into the blood; to explain which I ſhall now tell you, that about this time three years I mentioned, at *Greſham College*, to the Society, an odd experiment I had formerly made (not by chance, but deſign) upon blood, yet warm, as it came from the animal, *viz.* that by putting into it a little aqua fortis, or oil of vitriol, or ſpirit of ſalt (theſe being the moſt uſual acid menſtruums) the blood not only would preſently loſe its pure colour, and become of a dirty one, but in a trice be alſo coagulated: whereas if ſome fine urinous ſpirit, abounding in volatile ſalt, ſuch as the ſpirit of ſal armoniac, were mingled with the warm blood, it would not only not curdle it, or imbaſe its colour, but make it look rather more florid than before, and both keep it fluid, and preſerve it from putrefaction for a long time. This experiment I deviſed, among other things, to ſhew the amicableneſs of volatile ſpirits to the blood: and I remember it was ſo much taken notice of, that ſome very inquiſitive members of the Society came preſently to me, and deſired me to acquaint them more particularly with it, which I readily did, though afterwards I made ſome farther obſervations about the ſame experiments, that I had no occaſion to relate. This having been ſo publicly done, though I will not ſay that Signior *Fracaſſati* might not have hit as well as I upon the experiments publiſhed in his name, yet there is ſo little difference between the warm blood of an animal out of his veins and in them, that it is not very improbable, that he may have had ſome imperfect rumour of our experiment, without knowing whence it came, and ſo may, without any diſingenuity, have thence taken a hint to make and publiſh what you have *Engliſhed* for him. Perhaps you will find ſome entry made of my narrative in the journal of the Society; and if it be thought fit that, without at all reflecting upon our *Italian* author, any mention be made of what I related ſo long ſince, I think I can ſend you ſome other circumſtances belonging to it: for I remember I tried it with other liquors (as ſpirit of wine, oil of tartar, oil of turpentine) and I think I can ſend you ſome remarks upon the colour of the upper part of the blood. And I ſhall on this occaſion add, in reference to anatomical matters in general, that after I ſaw how favourably the *Uſefulneſs of Experimental Philoſophy* was received, I was invited to enlarge it in another edition, and for that I provided divers anatomical, as well as other experiments, and deſigned many more: ſo that I have by me, if I have not loſt them, divers things that would not, perhaps, be unwelcome to anatomiſts. But I am ſomewhat doubtful how to diſpoſe of them, having found by experience, that if a man proceed not cautiouſly in ſuch matters, he may hereafter be thought to have ſtolen from others, what indeed they owe, either mediately or immediately, to his communication. I could ſafely truſt the Society with them, as the looſe papers that contain them come to my hands; but, perhaps, it would not be ſo proper to put them out as my own, after they ſhall have been not only tried, but, as no doubt they will be, improved there, unleſs the Society ſhould think fit (which yet I ſhould be loth to move) to leave their members a liberty of publiſhing the experiments either preſented or propoſed to them, with all the additions they ſhall receive from their being made at the Society, with a ſignification (where it ſhall be thought neceſſary) that ſuch a part was the author's, or the propoſer's, and ſuch the improvements of the Society. But of this I would beg you not to diſcourſe, unleſs it be with our noble preſident, or without naming me: for, perhaps, it will not be amiſs to ſtay till I ſhall be able, through God's permiſſion, to talk with you about it at *London*. In the mean time I have ſent to Mr. *Herringman*, to deliver you the books you ſhall call to him for, in the name of, Sir,

Your very affectionate friend, and very humble ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

THERE is a little piece come out of *Swammerdam*, which is laid by for me, but I have not yet ſeen it. If I miſtake not, it treats of reſpiration; and therefore may be fit for your looking into. If I can find one of my old note-books, that I had in my hands ſince I came laſt to *Oxford*, I expect to meet there with ſomething about that ſubject. If you try the injection of ſaline liquors into the veins, be pleaſed to try the injecting of ſpirit of ſal armoniac, or of hartſhorn alone; and alſo preſently after the injection of a corroſive liquor: for I remember I made a ſomewhat like experiment, which I have not now time to ſet down. You will oblige me to put, from time to time, in a diſtinct ſheet of paper, the dates of thoſe letters of mine, wherein I mention to you my own experiments made or propoſed.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Oct.* 26, 1667.

I AM not ſorry you found the relation which your curioſity (and perhaps your civility too) made you ſearch for in the journal of the Society: but I am ſtill of opinion, that Signior *Fracaſſati* be tenderly dealt with. What other thing (of that nature) you ſay will ſurprize me, I almoſt long to know. The obſervation you mention in your *Tranſactions*, about the florid colour of blood, is pretty, and, in the trials I have made of it, it holds true: the reaſon alſo given by the author may, perhaps, be good. But I have tried ſome things, that may much help to determine whether it be or no; of which, if it be deſired, I can eaſily give an intimation. I am glad Dr. *Lower* and Mr. *Collins* are elected into the Society; for I take them both to be able and induſtrious men in their ſeveral profeſſions, and deſire to have my ſervice very particularly preſented to the former of them, as alſo to worthy Dr. *Beale*; as to whoſe obſervation about the ☿, I remember, that within a day of the time he mentions, I obſerved it to be here extraordinarily low, and ſo did Dr. *Wallis* (in his baroſcope) whom I ſpoke with about it. I humbly thank you, for the care you have been pleaſed to take about the diſpoſal of the books; and I ſent to Mr. *Herringman*, to deliver you thoſe that you ſhould call to him for; among which, I muſt beg not to forget one for yourſelf, if you have it not already. You will find it ſomewhat difficult to give, in few words, an account of my *Diſcourſe of Subordinate Forms*, which coſt me more thinking than poſſibly thoſe, that have not attentively looked into that intricate ſubject, will imagine.

CARE will be taken for the future, that the letters I ſend you be dated. But in caſe at any time it ſhould be forgotten, you may be pleaſed in great part to ſupply the omiſſion, by endorſing on the letter when you received it; for by that it will appear, that at leaſt it was written as early as the time mentioned in the endorſement. And I am the more ſollicitous about this matter, becauſe frequent experience ſhews us how much our *Engliſh* have loſt, for want of being ſo; and (which is more conſiderable) how difficult it is otherwiſe to avoid the occaſions of perſonal diſputes or reflections, which, for my part, I heartily deſire to ſhun.

IF I can conveniently (for I have been theſe two days not well) I may in my next impart to you an experiment, as odd as moſt I have met with, and which will, perhaps, ſet ſpeculative wits awork as much as another. When it ſhall have received what improvements the Society will make of it, it is very like I ſhall leave you at your liberty to diſpoſe of it; but, in the mean time, I muſt deſire you not to take notice of it, and ſhall intimate, at preſent, that it is a quite new way of deſtroying and reproducing light. I have alſo lately put in practice another thing, about which I muſt earneſtly deſire your ſecrecy. For though long ſince, perhaps ſome years,

I was so hopeful of a success that I set down, and have now by me, a long catalogue of experiments, that I think never have been made (nor, perhaps, designed) that may be tried by the help of this invention; yet for want of tools, and because the nature of the experiment requires time, I have not been able as yet to perform them. But the thing I pretend to do, in short, is this; to seal up glasses hermetically, when without the help of heat (for it is done by the engine) they are more exhausted of air than an æolipile has been yet brought to be by the help of heat. And this I have actually done, and that by several ways: and if it please God to bless me with health, as he has in some measure in my mechanical attempts of late, I hope to make good what I lately writ you, that though the study of nature would not be courted at the old rate, yet neither will it be deserted by,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,
and very humble servant,
ROB. BOYLE.

IF you hear any thing of the judgment made of my *Essays and Experiments of Colours*, now they are dispersed beyond sea, I shall be glad to know it. I hear nothing of your prosecuting at the Society the business of respiration; nor have I yet read *Swammerdam*.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Dec.* 29, 1667.

I HAVE no exceptions to the title-page which you design to prefix to the experiments of light, if you have good warrant for the last words of it, which, to me, seem complimental enough. I sent you on *Tuesday* the conclusion of the post-script, which I hope you have received, and to which I am not like suddenly to make any additions: for, without telling you now whether I could or no, I must confess to you, that I am tired with insisting so long upon one subject; especially since it hinders me from prosecuting some others, for which I have a stronger inclination. If when those experiments about light come forth in *Latin*, you think fit to say some little thing to the reader, either about the nature and design of the transactions, or about those experiments, I shall neither persuade nor oppose it. But I think it will be convenient to make the very first words of the *English* account itself I sent you, to be preceded by a long stroke in the same line, to intimate that the letter did not begin there; lest, without such intimation, the beginning may appear either too abrupt, or not so civil to you, as I desire my writings should be thought, as well as be. If you can conveniently do it (and not otherwise) I should be glad that in the *Latin* edition some intimation were given the readers, That whereas two several books of mine have been lately printed in *Holland*, viz. the *Physiological Essays*, and the *Book of Colours*, without any notice taken, as I am informed, either that they were ever printed in *England*, or so much as translated out of *English*: whereas, I say, I am told this, if by the title-pages of the books (whereof Mr. *Davis* tells me some are come to *London*) you find it to be true, I should be glad that a short intimation were given, that those books were translated out of *English*, in which language the essays were published, in the former part of the year 1661, and the latter before the middle of the year; which I therefore desire to have a little notice given of, because that if they should be supposed to be published but this present year, I may be suspected to have taken divers things from others, which they indeed borrowed of me. The experiment

ment of transfusion, made upon a mad man, I shall look upon, if the cure hold, as a very considerable thing, and capable of improvements. I am glad the *Florentine* experiments are at length published; which I remember a learned stranger, that came from those parts (and whom I never saw before nor since) told me eight or nine months ago, they had been long before, if it had not been perceived that some things of mine, that were already out, would, probably, keep divers of them from seeming new, or appearing so considerable as was hoped. But, perhaps, this was but this gentleman's conjecture, or compliment; and, however, I cannot think but such ingenious persons as the excellent prince *Leopoldo*, and some of the other *Florentine* virtuosi, must needs have made divers experiments, that would be very welcome and instructive. What you say of the *French* book you have received, gives me a great curiosity to see it, and makes me desire that you would be pleased to order Mr. *Crook*, or some other bookseller, to send for it to *Paris* for me; and if in the mean time, when you have done with yours, you can spare it me for a while, it shall, God willing, be thankfully returned you. I sent you on *Tuesday* a paper sealed up, with a superscription, that desires it may not be broken open till you hear farther from me about it; which request I must yet continue, and now give you this reason for it, that that packet is the second part of some papers, whereof I cannot send you the first part, though I was made to hope to have it transcribed time enough, and do expect to be able to send it you in a few days. The author of the book *De Viribus Percussionis*, I look upon as a substantial writer; but there are some here (who are not wont to be vain glorious) that think that on that subject he will teach them little that they know not already. I am glad of your correspondence with Monsieur *Carcavi*; but though, to gratify both you and him, I have consulted our library-keeper (and not him only) about the catalogue of books printed in *England* during the last twelve years, yet my endeavours have not proved successful: for though there be a law that gives this university an exemplar of every book that is printed, yet that law, for want of an annexed penalty, has been but very negligently obeyed. But thus much I have learned, which I hope may do you some service, that you may find a catalogue of all the books printed at *London* within the time mentioned, by getting a search made in the register of the *Stationers-hall*, of which for the two last years I hope a copy may be here procured you, by,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,
and very humble servant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

I AM sorry the person you mention in your postscript has been so much your enemy, as to oblige you to be his. I have obeyed you to Dr. *Wallis*, who is much your servant. If you had been here this week, I could have shewn you divers aerial experiments, which would (some of them at least) have let you see that the air, as transparent as it is, has not yet disclosed to us all that may be discovered in it. I desire to have my humble service presented to Dr. *Beale*, Mr. *Glanville*, and Mr. *Colepresse*, and to the first of them my thanks for his kind remembrance.

To

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *February* 1, 1667-8.

A VISIT made me ſince ſupper has left me ſo little time to anſwer your letter, that I am reduced to leave divers paſſages of it untouched, that I may be able to tell you, that I am very glad that the *Florentine* experiments are at laſt come out, and are likely to be ſhortly in ſuch good hands as yours. I ſhewed my lord *Brouncker*'s ſolution to Dr. *Wallis*, who, I ſuppoſe, will take notice of it to you; and I was this day at Dr. *Wren*'s lodging, but could not meet with him, nor conſequently diſcourſe with him about Mr. *Hooke*'s way of eſtimating the preſſure of the air. I am glad the experiment of transfuſion has at length ſucceeded ſo well at *Paris*: for I confeſs I have good hopes it will at length prove a very conſiderable one. I thank you for the advertiſement you are pleaſed to give me, according to my deſire, about the collection. The fifty pound I told you I was ready to contribute, will, I hope, be received for me at *London*, within a week or ten days; and if there be, before you hear from me again, an occaſion to mention it at the council, you will oblige me to do it for me, with all due expreſſions of affection and reſpect, together with ſome little apology, grounded upon the great prejudice, not to ſay ruin, thoſe that belong to *Ireland* undergo, by the ſtop of their almoſt only trade, the tranſportation of cattle. When the other members of the council pay in their contributions, upon your leaſt intimation I ſhall, God willing, be ready to give order for the payment of mine, which, as I was ſaying, I doubt not would be received for me within theſe very few days. I am glad of what you tell me concerning young Mr. *Stroude*, to whom pray, if you ſee him, be pleaſed to preſent my humble ſervice, and deſire him to do it for me to his father Sir *William*; and if he have any minerals for me, as I ſuppoſe he may have, you will oblige me to perſuade him to leave them in your hands, or at my ſiſter *Ranelagh*'s. I muſt before long be a ſuitor to you for ſome letters of recommendation for the ingenious Mr. *Colepreſſe*, when he goes to travel, and where you think that it may ſerve him to have it known, that I was one of thoſe that requeſted you to recommend him to the acquaintance of ſome ingenious men, you are at liberty to take notice of it. We have no luck in our enquiries about the ſenſe of the modern *Greek* church: for the critic I mentioned to you in my laſt, was five days ago ſuddenly hurried away to *London*; but yet when he came to take leave of me I would not give it him, till for all his haſte he had in a ſnip of paper that was at hand (and which I incloſe you) ſet me down the names of thoſe books, which he ſays prove the diſſent of the *Greek* church from the *Latin* in the point of the ſacrament; and he added, that one of the three authors (which I have therefore ſince marked with an aſteriſk) has a full confutation of *Baronius*'s ſtory, of the reconciliation of the *Greek* and *Latin* churches. I had in my hand a liſt of a pretty number of pneumatical experiments, made in order to the continuation of the *Engine Book*, which catalogue I intended to have ſent you, but only for your own view, together with this letter; but the party to whom I intruſted it having not (I ſuppoſe by reaſon of the much company I have had this afternoon) thought fit to reſtore it, as I expected, it cannot be ſent you till the next opportunity I have of naming myſelf,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,

and very humble ſervant,

ROBERT BOYLE.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Feb.* 21, 1667-8.

I AM obliged to you for ſo early diſpoſing of the ſealed paper I troubled you with. The objection that was made you about the Society's order, in reference to ſuch papers, was not altogether unreaſonable; but I think your anſwer to it was very juſt: the deſign of that order being only to ſecure thoſe that deſire to enjoy the benefit of it againſt the uſurpations, not the induſtry or out-doings of others; and if I had been there I could have added, that as to what concerned my paper in particular, the invention (if it deſerve that title) there mentioned, is not only hinted, but clearly ſet down. Such a book of the *Uſefulneſs*, &c. as I could get ready bound (and your haſte made me unwilling to ſtay for the better binding of another) I have this morning ſent you, and ſhall beg you to accept of from me. It is my unhappineſs, more than that of your *Italian* virtuoſi, that I am not at *London* to converſe with them; but I am apt to think you have rightly gueſſed at the reaſon of the preface they made you, about the *Florentine* experiments. Dr. *Wallis* and I have been this night endeavouring to ſee the new ſtar, but were hindered by cloudy weather, which has laſted longer than I remember to have known theſe many years; ſo that I have been kept from proſecuting an experiment or two I made about a month ſince, touching the burning of bodies in vacuo (as they call it) though what I then obſerved, together with what I tried to almoſt the ſame purpoſe, about the line deſcribed by moving ſmoke, ſix or ſeven years ago, make me think ſuch trials worth the being purſued. If I can get it tranſcribed, I may ſend you, by this poſt, a liſt of about half a ſcore of experiments, that ſhould be added to the catalogue you laſt received; and will, I hope, be looked upon by you under the ſame notion with the former. I have enquired about the bones your poſtſcript mentions, but as yet I cannot hear ſuch matters: if, upon further inquiſition I can, you may (God permitting) expect an account from,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,
and very humble ſervant,

ROBERT BOYLE.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *April* 3, 1668.

I AM not ſorry that the reputation of our Society increaſes abroad; but we ſhall have cauſe to be ſorry if nothing be done at home (by thoſe whom it moſt concerns) to enable us to make it good. I am glad you are like to ſettle a correſpondence with *Rome*, that being the chief center of intelligence; nor is it unwelcome news to me that you are like to receive, from time to time, an account of what will be done in the academy at *Caen*; though poſſibly, if our Society had ſuch encouragement as you ſay Monſieur *Colbert* gives that learned company, *England* would be able to give *Normandy* as good as it brings. The diſſection of a camel being that which in theſe parts we have had no opportunity to make, may well, according to what you intimate, afford us ſomething of conſiderable entertainment. You are not at all miſtaken, in thinking that I have had my ſhare of troubleſome viſits from ſtrangers, and that I would not invite my friends at *London*, to procure me any more of them; but I aſſure you, I except the converſation I lately had with Monſieur *Paiſan*, who left me with extraordinary profeſſions of ſeveral kinds, and to whom, if he be yet at *London*,

London, you will oblige me to preſent my humble ſervice. I perceive I am very much beholden to Monſieur *Sheutius*, for the very favourable mention he is pleaſed to make of me and my trifles. When I have the happineſs to ſee you again, I may ſuggeſt ſome queries about the mines of his country, ſince I perceive he is both curious and intelligent in thoſe matters. What he mentions to you about the ſubſtance he lighted on, that changed conſiſtence ſo eaſy, I am prone to believe, both upon his word, and upon an experiment I made, though not altogether the ſame way, with fixed nitre and diſtilled vitriol. I look alſo upon what he delivers as a more general obſervation to be ingenious, but I doubt it will admit of ſome limitations, ſince I remember not to have found red integrated nitre near ſo fuſible as his ſuppoſition requires it ſhould be. Your hint about the uſe of it in thermometers is rational; but we have other ſubſtances that perform the ſame thing at leaſt as well. The mention of heat puts me in mind of a paſſage in your former, about the way propoſed for the hatching of eggs, which brought to my remembrance, that I once attempted an odd way of ordering eggs, whereby I brought ſome of them to animation, and one or two of them a great deal further. The way I could not then proſecute, but did deſcribe it in one of my yet unpubliſhed eſſays. I have been, before the laſt week, beginning ſome trials about the air, which, if it pleaſe God I have opportunity to complete them, will not, perchance, be unwelcome to the ſpeculative: for though, for want of accommodations, I was obliged to deſiſt from proſecuting my attempts, yet what I was able to do will promiſe no ill ſucceſs to,

SIR,

your very affectionate friend,
and very humble ſervant,
ROBERT BOYLE.

I FORGOT to tell you in my laſt, that a gentleman who paſſed by this way informed me, that the *French Journal des Sçavans* is tranſlated into *Latin*, and printed in *Germany*, and that he had bought it. I have newly received from Dr. *Needham* a letter, addreſſed to you, and which he deſires me to convey to you. This it were not fit for me to decline; but in regard it concerns Mr. *Hooke*, and contains objections againſt ſomething lately publiſhed by him, I preſume you will think it fit, as I do, to ſhew it him in the firſt place: and ſince they are both ſuch ingenious men, and both members of the *Royal Society*, it were to be wiſhed that, if it be poſſible, they may be brought to agree, without making their oppoſition éclater. Dr. *Needham*'s letter ſhall be ſent by the carrier.

LETTERS

FROM

SEVERAL PERSONS

TO

Mr. BOYLE.

Moſt honoured SIR,

I WENT yeſterday to wait upon my excellent lady, who was pleaſed to ſhew me a certain letter making mention of me, which I had no ſooner peruſed, but the expreſſions of your very great love were delivered into my hands. Sir, this gave ſuch an alarm (for we are nothing almoſt but alarms) to my affections, that I muſt needs convey the ſound of it to your ears by thoſe paper wings, which carry alſo along with them a further diſcovery of the office of public addreſs for accommodations. The office of communications is to follow very ſhortly, God willing, eſpecially in reference to univerſal learning. And if then the truſtees of the kingdom ſhall vouchſafe to look after ſuch ſmall and trivial by-matters, I ſhall aſſuredly be mindful of your kindneſſes, and be perhaps as well in an offering, as in a receiving condition. If they do not, I fear that my lord *Cottington*, who, as I am certainly informed, was with a *French* doctor in *London* before thoſe troubles began, fully reſolved to have erected ſuch an office, [will] riſe once in judgment againſt them. However, I am more than reſolved to continue in this kind of folly, to ſerve the good of many; and worthy Sir *Cheny* profeſſes himſelf to be one that will join with me in running this race: for in his laſt he uſed theſe very words unto me — "I offer, if others of our "acquaintance will come in, and according as my condition in theſe tottering times "ſhall prove, to allow, towards the maintaining of one clerk, the ſum of 20 *l. per* "*ann.* and ſhall (as God ſhall bleſs me) be ready to increaſe it, till we can invite "the public to take notice of its own intereſt in the buſineſs." Thus far Sir *Cheny*; which I mention the rather, that it may be ſome incentive to others, by your means, in your quarters, if any burn with ſuch inflammations. And that you may have the more fuel to put into the fire, I cannot but tender to your favourable hands the other writings here adjoined, eſpecially the deſign of the *Hiſtory of Trades*. The author of them is one *Petty*, of twenty-four years of age, not altogether a very dear *Worſley*, but a perfect *Frenchman*, and good linguiſt in other vulgar languages beſides *Latin* and *Greek*, a moſt rare and exact anatomiſt, and excelling in all mathematical and mechanical learning, of a ſweet natural diſpoſition and moral comportment; as for ſolid judgment and induſtry, altogether maſculine. This is the meat or banquet to which I deſire to invite mainly all ingenious ſpirits and diſcerning palates at this time. I know not how the ſauce of it (which muſt be at leaſt a hundred and twenty pounds

per

per ann.) will be reliſhed; but when he hath perfected the ſpecimen which I have required of him in one trade (which alſo is near done) and ſet down all the terms and conditions upon which he deſires that annual aſſiſtance, I ſuppoſe no right taſte will nauſeate it; nay, I am confident to your ſenſe it will be delicacy, and the beſt veniſon that ever I could have hunted out for you in this populous wilderneſs. Sir, may I be ſo happy as to ſee again ſome lines from your hands, to continue, or rather begin a correſpondence, as to the coſmetical (but to my aims truly vital) parts of it; and I ſhall ſtudy to approve myſelf in all thoſe, and all other profitable and real reſpects and obſervances,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your entirely affectionate,
and moſt willing and obliged
friend to ſerve you,

S. HARTLIB.

London, Duke's-place, Nov. 16, 1647.

SIR,

I BEG the ſending of Mr. *Dury*'s *Exercitation*, how to travel profitably in the law. You ſhall have back this money with intereſt, if you dare give me credit for ſo much.

Farewel, dear Sir.

Right worthy Sir, and truly honoured,

THE incloſed from Mr. *Worſley* I received on *Saturday* laſt. The extracts he wrote confidingly to myſelf, but I thought it my duty not to conceal them from your eyes in the very formalia of his words. If I were not very confident that you would take all in good part, I would never have made over thoſe adventures of my freedom unto you; but owing ſo much to the nobleneſs of your diſpoſition, your ſpecial ſervices, and to the moſt faithful friendſhips both of Mr. *Morian* and Mr. *Worſley*, I could truly do no leſs. Sir, I could enlarge myſelf upon many other particulars full of variety, and of a ſpring of pleaſure; but I ſuppoſe Mr. *Worſley* hath preſented to your curioſity a large field to walk in at this time: yet give me leave to preſent you with a poſey of additional lines in the following words. I thank you for your new diſcoveries in anatomy, and enquiries of other uſeful and ingenious knowledges. I ſhewed Mr. *Hobbes* your letter, who liked it ſo well that he deſired me to lend it him, which I did. Your worthy friend and mine, Mr. *Gaſſend*, is reaſonble well, and hath printed a book of the life and manners of *Epicurus* ſince your going from hence. He hath now in the preſs at *Lyons* the *Philoſophy of Epicurus*, in which I believe we ſhall have much of his own philoſophy, which doubtleſs will be an excellent work. There is an experiment how to ſhew, as they ſuppoſe, that there is or may be vacuum. It were too long to write all the particulars, but in brief thus: they prepare a long tube, like a weather-glaſs, which is filled with quickſilver; and being ſtopped as cloſe as may be with one's finger, the tube is inverted, and plunged in a veſſel half or more full of quickſilver. The quickſilver in the tube will force the quickſilver in the veſſel to riſe, by adding more quickſilver to it, and ſo leaves a ſpace in the top of the tube vacuum, as is ſuppoſed. But a bladder being hung in that vacuum was as perfectly ſeen as could be: ſo that there muſt be ſomebody there to convey the action of ſight to the eye, as I ſuppoſe, and divers others here. That bladder was made as flat as they could, when they put it in; and when the quickſilver left it, it ſwelled in that ſuppoſed va-

cuum like a little foot-ball. Thus far Sir *Charles Cavendiſh* to Mr. *Petty*, who honours and loves you, but not in thoſe dimenſions, as he who ſubſcribes himſelf always,

Right worthy Sir and truly honoured,
your moſt entirely reſpective
and faithfully devoted,
SAM. HARTLIB.

Lond. Duke's-place, in the great open Court, *May* 9, 1648.

Right honoured SIR,

I HOPE you have received my laſt of the 26th of *June*, with many extracts of letters of great importance, which I would not have fall into other hands but your own. The letter was directed as this by the favour of *Sherburn*. Here are the continuation of the reſpects from *Amſterdam* and *Duke's-place*, which contain ſome particulars in them worth your trial and animadverſions. One *Evans* in *Fetter-Lane* uſed to ſell antimony cups for 40 ſhillings a piece, if not more, which perhaps coſt him no more than ten ſhillings. I am told they can no more be had, for which I am not much troubled. For I ſuppoſe the antimony cup is no other than a pure ordinary regulus antimonii caſt into the form of a cup, which cup hath no other virtues nor effects than the foreſaid regulus; for this regulus lying in any liquor doth the ſame, with the cup-holding liquor in all reſpects. As for *Vauxhall*, there is a proviſo put into the act, that it ſhall not be ſold. My endeavours are now, how Mr. *Petty* may be ſet apart or encouraged for the advancement of experimental and mechanical knowledge in *Greſham* college at *London*, of which you ſhall have a true account alſo,

Right honoured Sir,
from your entirely faithful,
and moſt humble ſervant,
S. HARTLIB.

Duke's-place, *July* 24, 1649.

Dear SIR,

YOUR firſt and laſt from *Ireland*, dated at *Youghall* the 10th of *January*, 1653-4, I received yeſternight, very late. The 30th of *September* anſwered yours from *Briſtol*, but do not perceive, even by this, whether the ſame packet did ever come ſafely to your hands. I ſhould not have failed to perform my promiſe of writing, as I was really reſolved to do it every week, if yourſelf had not been in fault. For my promiſe was grounded, as you remember, upon your firſt writing from *Ireland*, which was never received till now: beſides your deareſt ſiſter was ſo diſcouraged, having ſent ſeven or eight letters, to which ſhe had gotten no anſwer, that ſhe was more than inclining not to write any more unto you. I cannot alſo but remember, with what reſolvedneſs you promiſed to be back again in *February*, or ſooner; which now being paſt, you ſee, upon your intimation of a longer ſtay, how ready I am, without the interpoſal of one day, to fulfil, in ſome meaſure, all your deſires and expectations; I ſay in ſome meaſure, for there are ſome things fallen out ſince your departure, which it is not lawful to utter by writing, but are as certainly yours, as thoſe that do poſſeſs them, as ſoon as God ſhall afford a fitter and more certain opportunity. For my lady tells us, that ſhe expects ſhortly another letter from you by a ſhip, which is to let her know, how your poſture ſhall be ſtated, for coming or ſtaying; which will alſo direct us how to carry ourſelves in our communications for the future. But O! that it would pleaſe God to order your affairs in ſuch a manner, that

that you could be with us before ſo many months be expired as you have calculated, according to the *Iriſh* account! We expect every week to hear more from *Johannes Baptiſta Coen*, who hath been a great while with *Faber*, that famed pretender in *France*, but is now at *Dieppe*. It is not impoſſible, but I may tell you in my next, God willing, that he is not far from the place, where once *Charing-croſs* did ſtand. Some months ago I received a letter from Mr. *Worſley*, in theſe words, among other particulars. " I wrote to you, a while ſince, and in it took the boldneſs to write to Mon-
" ſieur *Clod*, in which you muſt deal plainly and honeſtly with me, if I took too much
" liberty or freedom in aſking his opinion, about a matter of ſo much judgment and
" weight. For the truth is, I have laid all conſiderations in chemiſtry aſide, as things
" not reaching much above common laborants, or ſtrong-water diſtillers, unleſs we
" can arrive at this key, clearly and perfectly to know, how to open, ferment, putrify,
" corrupt and deſtroy (if we pleaſe) any mineral, or metal; which being withal
" not indeed to be done, unleſs by one, that diſcerns the nature very well, I pre-
" ſume it is therefore ſaid, it is eaſier to make ſome metals, than to deſtroy them.
" Not that I apprehend it is to be underſtood, the work is eaſier, to make a metal,
" than to deſtroy it; for that were impoſſible, ſeeing a natural putrefaction and cor-
" ruption is the firſt thing in order to be done towards the making, tranſmuting, or
" multiplying of any metal. But I conceive the meaning rightly to be, that a man
" once knowing how to corrupt or deſtroy a metal, it is then nothing near ſo diffi-
" cult, for him to proceed further, and to make a metal, as it was at firſt, or is
" now generally to men, to underſtand, how they ſhould begin to deſtroy a metal.
" In this therefore, both principally and only, I conceive learning, judgment, or wiſ-
" dom to conſiſt, either as to the knowledge of true medicine (other preparations
" ſhort of this being not much to be valued) or as to the carrying on of a higher
" work in nature. And being led by ſome ſerious conſiderations to ſee the neceſſity
" of this (and the ſmallneſs of moſt chemical operations beſides this) the ſame hand
" of goodneſs did diſpoſe my mind to comprehend both the poſſibility, and ſomewhat
" of the way of it, and nature of the courſe concerning it, which I confeſs did pro-
" voke and occaſion that freedom with Monſieur *Clod*; as reſolved not much to pre-
" fer a correſpondency of any hands, in things chemical or medicinal, unleſs this, as
" I either may be an aſſiſtant towards it, or be aſſiſted in it. And although I may
" ſay, I ſee already ſo much in it, as to prefer it before any other natural knowledge,
" or, perhaps, employment; yet I can find nothing very valuable or very deſirable,
" either in myſelf, or others. And when I have once a while conſidered things, I
" find myſelf as much inclined to fear or ſuſpect them, as I do to wiſh them." Thus far that noble and high ſoaring ſpirit, which I thought good to repreſent unto your better conſiderations, which you ſay are engaged, for the preſent, in a ſhort eſſay concerning chemiſtry, by way of a *judicium de chemia & chemicis*. As for us, poor earth-worms, we are crawling in my houſe about our quondam back-kitchen, whereof my ſon hath made a goodly laboratory; yea, ſuch a one, as men (who have had the favour and privilege to ſee, or to be admitted into it) affirm, they have never ſeen the like, for its ſeveral advantages and commodiouſneſſes. It hath been employed days and nights with no ſmall ſucceſs, God be praiſed, theſe many weeks together. But what particulars it hath hitherto produced, and what greater medicines he is taking in hand this week and the next, I ſuppoſe this my obedient and very chemical ſon will be able better to relate unto you, than myſelf. I could wiſh the like account could be given of Dr. *Stirk*, but he is altogether degenerated, and hath, in a manner, undone himſelf and his family. I know not directly how many weeks he hath lain in priſon for debt; but after he hath been delivered the ſecond time, he hath ſecretly

abandoned

abandoned his houſe in *London*, and is now living obſcurely, as I take it, at *Rotherhith*. He hath always concealed his rotten condition from us; nor hath there been any communication between him and my ſon, as long as you have been in *Ireland*. Mr. *Webb* doth now rail at him and curſe him, as having been moſt wretchedly ſeduced and deceived by him. Many weeks ago he promiſed me to write diligently unto you, but hath never ſent one letter ſince your going from hence. I hear there are ſecret tranſactions between him and my lord *Dover*; but I am afraid they will all vaniſh into ſmoke. When God hath brought you over again, we ſhall leave him altogether to your teſt, to try whether yet any good metal be left in him or not. But the beſt is, that he ſtands more in need of us, than we of him. I am glad that ens Veneris hath done ſo much good in *Ireland*. My ſon, and many others, can tell you of the ſtrange virtues and effects, which his laudanum hath already produced among us here. The courſe, which you have purchaſed of your excellent ſurgeon, to cure the ſtone in the kidnies, will be very welcome, whenſoever you ſhall ſend it. After thoſe great and moſt univerſal arcana are prepared, my ſon, both for your and my ſake, will ſet himſelf on purpoſe, God bleſſing his endeavours, to perfect thoſe other *Helmontian* preparatives concerning the ludus with the ſal armoniac. I need not tell you again (for I hear that you know it already) that Dr. *Boat*, when he was come as far as *Dieppe* towards *England*, being let blood by thoſe common butchers of human kind, departed this world; which really is a very great loſs to the commonwealth of learning. In his laſt, of the 18th of *October*, 1653, he wrote unto me as followeth: "Pray preſent my humbleſt ſervice to Mr. *Boyle* and Sir *C. Culpepper*; and tell the "firſt, that here is newly come forth a *Treatiſe des arbres fruitiers* (which, God willing, I ſhall bring him, with the reſt of that ſubject deſired by him) and the other, "that in all *Paris* there is not to be had one grain of lucern ſeed, not only of this, "but not ſo much as of the laſt year's growth." Thus far that bleſſed ſoul. I make no queſtion, we ſhall find that treatiſe in *Paul*'s Church-yard; or it may eaſily be procured with the reſt from *France*, if you will let me know the particulars of that commiſſion, which you imparted to the late doctor. But how to gain another treatiſe, deſigned by the foreſaid worthy man, upon my moſt earneſt ſolicitations, I am utterly at a loſs, except Dr. *Child* from *Ireland* ſucceed him in the purſuit of that weighty ſubject. For having dealt much with him, about the compleating his *Natural Hiſtory of Ireland*, by procuring that encouragement, which he demanded, he was pleaſed to encourage me again with another undertaking, in theſe words:

"You may encourage our friends to do as much by me for to ſet me on work "about another (beſides the perfecting of the *Natural Hiſtory of Ireland*) production, "*viz.* my intended book of the whole nature, intrinſical qualities, preparations, "and all manner of uſes of ſaltpetre; a natural body of too noble a nature, and too "univerſal uſe, for to be ſo much neglected and unknown as hitherto it hath been. "I have not ſo much as begun that work yet, but having all the materials ready for "it, *partim in chartis & partim intra caput*, a few months at any time will ſerve my "turn for to give it its being." In the mean while, receive here that ſpecial ſecret and ingenious ſpeculation of my friend, the great experimenter, of whom I told you lately, in the very words, wherein I ſet it even from his mouth, being as followeth. "Having been told, that one Mr. *Jurſang* and Monſieur *la Grange* here gave out, to "have found out a way to make ſaltpetre grow, but that they would not diſcover it "under ten thouſand franks, he ſet his wits at work for to find out the way, and "made no doubt but it might be done thus: *viz.* Taking a parcel of good ground, "well digged and well manured with dung, as for the richeſt corn, a cover is to be "made over it, for to exclude the ſun and to hinder the growing of any herbs "(which

" (which would hinder the growing of saltpetre) and then to sow saltpetre on it; " which might most commodiously be done by dissolving it in water, and throwing " the water on the ground. The proportion he thinks to be a pound of saltpetre for " a foot square of ground; after half a year, you may pare away half a foot deep of " your ground, and half a year after another half foot, and so from time to time, " and you will have an everlasting mine of saltpetre; and the deeper you come, the " better it will be; but if at first you should pare it too deep, and cut away too " much, you would mar all. After the paring away of the upper crust, the ground " must still be digged afresh." Thus far my friend's invention. *Hactenus ille.* The latter passages of the secret I have added, being desirous to have that description concerning the *Hamburgh* saltpetre (whereof you may inform yourself again from Mr. *Van Musſig*) under your own hands. But to return to the remaining contents of your letter, I must now most solemnly call upon you on the behalf of the *Natural History of Ireland*, which, if yourself and Dr. *Child* do not take professedly to task, I fear will never be perfected to any purpose; at least, if so much could be done in it, as to have all the interrogatories judiciously answered (of which, God willing, I shall send you more copies) it would be a considerable addition to a second edition of this imperfect work, which I formerly have published. I pray therefore, Sir, do not fail to give or procure me as ample an account as possibly you can concerning this affair. As soon as I have made an end of this letter, I purpose to send for those *Arminian* books which you have desired. If they may be had, the interrogatories shall be sent in the same packet with them, according to your direction. I am sorry that the transplantation of the *Irish* should be that dismal occasion of your stay; but my comfort is, that you may get far better tenants, and that could not be so easily swept away as those other, if you had but so much faith and courage as to adventure yourself amongst us, and to let us enjoy your presence with all convenient expedition. I confess, the transplantation of those many governments have swept away also almost all my tenants, that I cannot do that which otherwise I had more largely intended. But my hopes and confidences towards God are stronger than ever, that my lands shall not always lie waste upon my hands. Sir, you complain of that barbarous (for the present) country wherein you live; but if you would but make a right use of yourself, from the place where you live, towards Dr. *Child*, Mr. *Worsley*, Dr. *Petty*, major *Morgan* (not to mention others) they would abundantly cherish in you many philosophical thoughts, and encourage you, perhaps more vigorously than I can do at this distance and uncertainties, to venture even upon divers choice chemical experiments, for the advancement both of health and wealth. And if *Stirk* shall continue his ungrateful obstinacy, yet give us but more certain assurance either of your staying or coming, and we shall endeavour to freight our letters with many *Utopian* intelligences, to express, at least, this way the very good will which we bear towards all manner of ingenuities. If Mr. *Dymock* knew, that I was writing into *Ireland*, I am confident, he would present his most humble service, with his gratitude for former favours unto you. He is forsaken in a manner by all, and the lower for the present, because I cannot any longer assist either his person, family, or inventions. By the last post I received an unexpected letter from the *Scottish* lord *Forbes*, in these very lines. " Having newly seen three small pieces, one called, *An Invention, &c.* another, *The* " *reformed Husbandman*; the third called, *An Essay for Advancement of Husbandry* " *Learning*; I perceive you are still the old man, and your incessant endeavours to " advance a public good is never wanting, though such be many times misregarded " and not rewarded. Since it is my lot to be here, where I have been ever since I " did come from *England*, by that act of banishment, and resolves, God willing, to

" ſtay here till it pleaſe God to ſend better times; out of the acquaintance I have for-
" merly had with you, I am bold to intreat you to acquaint me what effect thoſe
" three treatiſes have taken; and if they be practicable, communicate your know-
" ledge with your old friend. But if, for lack of patrons, ſuch talents lie ſo long
" hid, if the gentleman that writes to you, or any inſtructed or taught by him, will
" do me the favour to come hither to *Sweden*, I will find him patrons that will afford
" him a plentiful maintenance." The letter is dated at *Stockholm*, the 21ſt of *Jan.* 1654. I ſhould be willing to part with him into *Sweden* or any other place, which he could fancy: as to his invention of motion, of which I am no more ſo fond as I was wont to be. Not that there is any defect in the ſaid invention, but according to the ſaying of *Terence*, *Tædit harum quotidianarum formarum*, there appearing a far greater beauty and perfection in ſome other inventions of the ſame kind, which are going through my hands at this preſent; of which I ſhall be able to give you a more particular account ſhortly, there being already a reference made by his highneſs for a patent for 14 years. But that other part of his public and private uſefulneſs, as to all the parts of huſbandry (I ſpeak ſtill of Mr. *Dymock*) is now the more to be regarded, and deſerveth far better to be cheriſhed and ſupported than hitherto it hath been. Yet I hope he ſhall not need to go into *Sweden* for patronage, if God bleſs thoſe other natural, chemical, or mechanical ingenuities, in which our confiding friends are ſo deeply engaged. The huſbandry directions about clover, here incloſed, I got from my lord *Brereton*'s eldeſt ſon, who obtained them once from colonel *Goring* as I take it. The other experiment, or the offer of it, came from *Hamburgh*, and is tranſlated into *Latin*; and thoſe other animadverſions for your ſake. I hear there is one Mr. *Haughton*, a gentleman that lives in *Norfolk*, who hath for many years ſince uſed the huſbandry of clover-graſs, and hath an eaſy way by the help of a kind of mill, to ſhell the huſk from the ſeed, whereby his ſeed will not ſtand him in above two ſhillings *per* pound; which otherwiſe is ſold in *London* for eight, ten, twelve, and ſixteen ſhillings. There is alſo a *Dutchman*, one Mr. *Bedloe*, for the preſent at *Amſterdam*, who promiſeth to furniſh huſbandmen with a liquor for imbibing of ſeed-corn, whereby the ſeed being ſown in the moſt barren ground (ſo it be freſh) ſhall produce as rich a crop, as the ſame quantity of ſeed would have done in the beſt prepared land, according to the uſual courſe of huſbandry; and the land ſhall continue to yield ſuch crops for twenty years together, without any amendment or manure, than what may come from the ſeed thus imbibed. The charge of the liquor will not be above twelve ſhillings for a buſhel. A gentleman of *Wales* (Mr. *Kemys*) is ſaid to have ſown laſt year four acres of wheat in barren land, imbibed with the ſaid liquor, of which I am promiſed a fuller relation in due time. In my late publiſhed treatiſe, which I ſent you, concerning diviſion of land, *&c.* there is an experiment or ſecret, tranſlated into *Engliſh*, which runs thus in the original.

Frumentum eligatur ponderoſum & maſculum. Hoc enim ſolum in terram tanquam fœminam conjectum, vim generationis habet. Hoc ita electum imponatur in aquam ſimi equini pinguem & fœtidam, in qua tot libræ ſalis terræ, quot jugera ſeminanda erunt, diſſolvantur, maceretur per 24 horas. Hoc ſi fiat, media frumenti ad ſementem pars ſufficiet, aratri duntaxat unius labor, neque ulla ſtercoratio neceſſaria erit etiam in terra ſterili. Frumentum inde uno ante meſſem menſe matureſcet, & ob ſalis terræ commixtionem, decennio conſervari poterit. Te hortor, ut porro huic negotio inſiſtas ac promoveas hoc Ceriale artificium. In the forementioned treatiſe you will ſee, how highly Dr. *Child* doth eſtimate this experiment. Since I have received a further enlargement upon it thus. *Nunc de ſeminum maceratione, cui ego multum tribuo, id addo, ſummopere cavendum ne in aqua calida multo minus ad ignem, macerentur & coquantur. Retulerunt mihi harum rerum gnari omnem vim*

ſeminis & fertilitatem perire, ſi coquantur, vel etiam aqua calidiore macerentur. Cauſam illi ignorabant. Exiſtimo autem hanc eſſe: virtus ſeminalis in ſale conſiſtit. Hic ſal liqueſcit & reſolvitur, adeoque aquæ calida miſcetur, unde granum ſale caſſum moritur. Quod ſi in illa aqua, cui grana incocta ſunt, poſtquam refrixit, recentia grana macerentur, attrahent ex aqua ſalem incoctum, & virtute creſcent. Unum enim granum ſal multorum, vi magnetica, attrahet. Unde etiam patet, cur grani-voracium fimus ad fertilitatem commendetur, ſicut tu olim recte in tuis, quod vita media vegetativa & ſeminum in ſtercoribus illis reſtitet exaltata. Unde grana aliquo aëris vitio corrupta non ſunt abjicienda, etiamſi enim non conducant ad victum, tamen excocta vim ſuam reddunt aliis granis, aeque macerata multiplicant. Thus far learned Dr. *Horne*, profeſſor at *Harderwick*, who hath been lately called to *Leyden*. Sir, I thought to have taken my leave here of you, but that ſomething extraordinary of butter and cheeſe is brought to my hands to entertain you withal. That is, how to make a better ſort of butter, without ſetting the milk for cream, practiſed with great approbation by Mrs. *Child*, in the iſle of *Ely*. The milk, ſo ſoon as it is come from the cow, muſt be ſtrained then churned; as uſually cream is done. Alſo the cheeſe made of the butter-milk will be better than the beſt two meal cheeſes that ever was eaten. And one pound of this butter ſhall be worth a pound and a half of your beſt butter, which is made of cream. My poor wife hath been ſick unto death, but, by God's bleſſing upon the laudanum, the ſtrength of her diſeaſe was broke within leſs than three hours after once taking of it, which none of her kindred would have believed. She remembers her humble ſervice, with the reſt of her daughters and ſons. Sir *Cheney* complains more than ever, that his father hath utterly undone him. If you find no letter here from my ſon *Clodius*, you muſt lay the blame upon the ſmith's ſhop in *Martin*'s *Lane*, where he hath been all this day with another workman, to prepare ſomething, which is to be an ingredient in that noble medicament of the *Helmontian* cinnabar, which he hopes to have in readineſs, if God permit, in leſs than three weeks time. But by the next poſt you may expect a large letter, in anſwer to your kindneſs from his hands. The printed paper here adjoined, was preſented without any effect to the public truſtees of that affair. If the adder will not hear, yet, methinks, it is ſome comfort, that the charmers have charmed wiſely. I remain now and ever,

Dear SIR,

Charing-Croſs, *Feb.* 28, 165¾.

your moſt entirely devoted friend and ſervant,

SAM. HARTLIB.

My moſt humble ſervice to the earl of *Corke*, and the lord *Broghill*: alſo to Mr. *Van Muſſig*, if he will be friends with me. I have not time to read over what I have written.

Dear SIR,

I PERCEIVE by your laſt moſt welcome letter of the 25th of *April*, that all my three former letters are ſafely arrived to your hands: your intended ſtay till the 24th of *June*, is ſuch a paſſage that pierces my ſoul, for divers very weighty reaſons and conſiderations, which is but bootleſs to name for the preſent. Nor dare I entertain your departing again from *Dublin* with any delight or ſatisfaction, in reference to our communications, which might have been more readily exchanged if you had continued in that central place. But we muſt quietly ſubmit to a wiſer providence, than we can ſet up by our own deſires or affections, though never ſo ardent and ſin-

cere. I hope you have received likewiſe the great packet, with the deſired *Arminian* books, which could hardly be gotten at the ſecond hand. The monies which I laid out for them, I received again, according to your appointment. If I ſhould have apprehended ſo long a ſtay as to the 24th of *June*, I would have added ſomething elſe to the foreſaid packet, beſides five copies of the deſired interrogatories; to divers of which I have procured a ſufficient anſwer. It would much further that deſign, if every ingenious head amongſt you would take notice of whatſoever worth the obſervation occureth in any place, that ſo by little and little we might perfectly come to underſtand the natural hiſtory of all the parts in that country. There are ſome things worth a philoſophical pen in theſe places, *viz.* How it cometh to paſs, that there are not frogs, toads, ſnakes, neither moles nor nightingales, rarely magpies? How ſome kind of fowls and beaſts we have not in *England?* As divers hawks, cocks of the wood, pintails, wolves, foxes, greyhounds wonderous large; as alſo divers plants and fiſhes. Farther, to enquire what truth there is, concerning the generation of barnacles, which much abound there. As alſo of divers things which the *Iriſh* fooliſhly report of St. *Partrick*. Alſo it were worth the while, ſtrictly to examine their petrifying fountains, which are ſaid to abound in ſeveral parts, whether they tranſmute all woods, or only holly, as is commonly reported? Whether turf doth grow here much, and how? Alſo, concerning divers iſles, in one of which it is reported, a dog will not bite, and a woman cannot have children in. Alſo of lakes, ſome of which are accounted bottomleſs; another, at certain times, caſting forth yellow amber. Alſo concerning ſtones like birds, which they ſay, St. *Patrick* turned into ſtone, for chirping when he was preaching. I am glad to hear that Mr. *Worſley* alſo is like to engage in the proſecution of theſe affairs, and this kind of ſurveying of lands. Concerning the clover huſbandry, I am promiſed a ſpecial account, which you ſhall have, God willing, as ſoon as it comes to my hands, either in print, or a copy in writing. There is another renowned ſeed in *Brabant* and *Flanders*, which is as little taken notice of as clover was, before my books was divulged; it is called in *Latin* ſpergula, and in *Engliſh* ſpurry-ſeed; of which one writes unto me as followeth: "The ſpurry-ſeed which you have gotten out of the low, grew, no doubt, in light "ground: and, accordingly, if it were mine, it ſhould again be ſown in the lighteſt "ground I had; though, for trial's ſake, I might, perhaps, beſtow a handful or two "upon every ſort of ground near me."

THE times of ſowing it are twice in a ſummer: the firſt time is not very early. I ſhould not adventure to ſow *Dutch* ſeed in *England*, before the middle of *May*, leſt being a ſtranger, it ſhould take it unkindly to meet with cold *May* mornings and diſcourage me. In *June* and *July* it will be in flower, and in *Auguſt* the ſeed is uſually ripe. The ſecond time of ſowing is after hay-harveſt, when the *Brabant* huſbandman preſently ploughs up his ground, and ſows it with ſpurry-ſeed, that it may grow up and ſerve his kine after all the late graſs and rowins be eaten up, even till New-years-day: ſo that this latter ſowing yields no ſeed, but is eaten up green, and the proviſion for ſeed is made by the former ſowing.

IT will be good in this firſt trial, to ſow it in ſeveral parts of the ſame ground, in different proportions, and to mark which thrives beſt. As alſo in the ſame ground, and with the ſame proportion of ſeed, to try the difference of increaſe there is between the ſeed newly threſhed out, and thrown into new-ploughed ground, and that ſeed, which is at the ſame time a year old.

IT is ordinary in *Brabant* to ſell away their *May*-butter, and to make their winter proviſions for themſelves, and their more knowing cuſtomers in the end of the year. For many of them prefer ſpurry-butter before *May*-butter. I ſuppoſe the principal reaſon

reaſon is, becauſe it is not ſo apt to grow rank, with that ſummer-heat, which *May*-butter muſt endure in *June*, *July* and *Auguſt*.

I HAVE known ſome *Brabant* huſbandmen ſow kolls, that is, ſmall round turnips, among their ſpurry, in the latter ſeed-time, as being alſo good to increaſe the milk in their kine.

SOME *Brabant* women give ſpurry to their hens, that will catch it from one another as they do chick-weed: they believe, that it makes them lay the more eggs. Spurry is by ſome eſteemed a ſure remedy for a cut, or green wound, if it be bruiſed green and laid to the cut. Thus far of ſpurry-ſeed. I could give you likewiſe ſeveral accounts concerning *la Luterne*, and *St. Foyne*; but my legacy of huſbandry being to be printed the third time, you ſhall find them all in that edition with the Anſwer of the late Dr. *Child* to the animadverter, Dr. *Boate*, upon his large letter of huſbandry, wherein there are divers excellent obſervations and experiments, which, by God's bleſſing, are like to enrich theſe nations, if their induſtry be not wanting. By that which I read concerning Dr. *Child*'s huſbandries in the work of *Ireland*, I ſee what a good foundation of life he hath laid for that honeſt country calling. But I doubt the colonel cannot ſhew us any more obſervations or directions of his in writing, beſides what is extant already from his hand; though this would have improved clover, flax and woad, upon many more lands than his own. I have heard no more from Dr. *Horne*, ſince I have ſent him a pretty bulk of all ſorts of books. I ſuppoſe he will give his judgment upon thoſe, that treat of this ſubject, as ſoon as he is ſettled at *Leyden*, whither he is called to the profeſſorſhip of hiſtory, in *Salmaſius*'s room, as I take it. I have ſeen lately a *French* book, much commended unto me, called, *Le Jardinier François, qui enſeigne à cultiver les arbres & herbes potageres. Avec la maniere de conſerver les fruits, & faire toutes ſortes de confitures conſerves, & maſſepains. Dedié aux Dames. Seconde edition. A Paris* 1651. Perhaps, this alſo was amongſt the books which Dr. *Boate* commended for his georgical catalogue. I long to hear more news of that ingenious gentleman, between *Youghall* and *Dublin*, for advancement of theſe rural ſtudies. I like ſo well his character already, which you have given him, that I am much inclined to preſent him with ſome of theſe kind of books of mine, that they may be improved and enlarged by his pen, both from his great travels in the eaſtern countries of the world, as likewiſe from his eminent huſbandries in *Ireland*. The way to have roſes twice a year, is very pleaſant and fragrant, if it be ſo practicable as you have deſcribed. For the lord *Digby* would ſay, ſpeaking of an ancient fair lady, that a roſe in autumn was as ſweet as a roſe in *June*. But better travellers and naturaliſts relate, that the planting of roſes is but a late attempt in the *Weſt-Indies*, where they never grew afore; yet ſince they have been planted there, they have proſpered exceedingly, in a moſt ſurpriſing nature, for ſight and ſmell above all our roſes. I am ſhortly to be acquainted with Mr. *Marſhall*, the great maſter of inſects in all *England*, as likewiſe of the planting of above thirty new ſorts or kinds of roſes, which are ſo lively and accurately repreſented, that three hundred pounds ſterling hath been offered for that picturary, if he would have ſold it. The performance of Dr. *Van Muſſig*'s promiſe concerning ſaltpetre will be very welcome: but, not taking notice of this, I pray remember my true love and ſervice unto him. If he have any buſineſſes or commands to honour me withal, you may aſſure him, I ſhall approve myſelf always his ancient faithful friend and ſervant. The author of *Iſagoge Phytoſcopica* is Dr. *Jungius* of *Hamburgh*, one of the beſt logicians in all *Germany*. For he conceives if that art were truly underſtood and applied, not only botanical, but all other real ſtudies whatſoever, would flouriſh more than they have done ſince the fall of *Adam*. *Leges Collegii Protonoetici* came from the ſame forementioned author: but they will

will ſcarcely be underſtood, without the general draught of his philoſophical undertakings, which I ſhall impart unto you hereafter, God willing. In my laſt to Mr. *Worſley*, I gave him the contents of a certain treatiſe, called, *Viridaria Varia Regia & Academica publice in uſum magnatum ac philobotanorum collecta ac recognita opera & ſtudio D. Simonis Pauli S. R. Daniæ Andrei Aulici, Hafniæ* 1653. *In quo continentur*, 1. *Catalogus plantarum horti regii Hafniæ.* 2. *Pariſienſis.* 3. *Warſavienſis regis Poloniæ.* 4. *Oxonienſis.* 5. *Gymnaſii Patavini.* 6. *Horti academici Lugduno-Batavi.* 7. *Horti Groningenſis.* 8. *Catalogus tuliparum.* 9. *Laurembergii Botanotheca. Hoc eſt, modus conficiendi herbarium vivum.* All in one thick volume, in great 12mo. There came over but two copies only from *Denmark*. But a judicious friend of mine writes his cenſure upon it in theſe following words:

—*Viridaria regia Sim. Pauli perſuadeo mihi opus eſſe ad pompam verius quam ad uſum: cui bono quæſo variarum iſtarum plantarum nomenclatio, ſi certior earum et fundatior deſcriptio abſit? Et licet ejuſmodi nobis poteſtas, quemadmodum in prolixa horti Eichſtedenſis deſcriptione atque in herbariis præprimis nonnullis (puta Matthioli ſola ſe figurarum elegantia inſinuantibus) eſt videre, quid tamen præter inanem oculorum voluptatem lectori adferunt ſolidi? Niſi forte nobis una virtutes vireſque in cibo, potu, aliiſque diſtinctius et accuratius explicent? Sed quâ hoc mihi pollicear de uno homine? niſi ut quis ſcribere libros animum intendat, & nobis denuo apponat, quod cum tædio ſumptum eſt. Unam unus medicus herbam deſcribat; res difficillima in mitiorem cogetur naturam, & ſic aliquando pleniſſimum rei botanicæ ſyſtema habebimus. Imo praxis reſpondebit theoriæ quam proximè, et erit chymico bono cui fidat in poſterum. Hodie aliud nihil quam ſcribunt & exſcribunt botanici, rariſſime quod docent, quod ipſi experti ſunt, ut minoris merito emolumenti ingentia noſtra herbaria ſint. Verum eſt alicubi extant certa medicamina & infallibilia, ſed illapſa ſunt multis dubiis aliis quaſi involuta, & nequit nemo docere veritatem illuſtrius, quam quem ipſa fideliter docuit. Sed de hac re eſto domini Clodii judicium.* Thus far a very learned friend, which agreeth with your judgment, which you have expreſſed upon this matter. I thank you for the intelligence given me of my lord of *Leiceſter*'s inoculating practices. I ſhall take more notice from henceforth, of that garden for theſe, and his other pleaſant and profitable civilities and cultures. If we could have a true and faithful deſcription of all theſe kind of induſtries, which have been with very vaſt charges and exquiſite ſkill, beſtowed upon the famed duke of *Holſtein*'s garden, it would teach us yet more botanical and œconomical leſſons. If I might be ſo bold, I ſhould be glad to know what other curioſities Mr. *Worſley* hath communicated to you, beſides the moſt unprocurable part of *Glauber*'s ſecond furnace. Mr. *Morian* writes no more of him, or his other promiſed magnalia. A great abbot in *France*, intimately correſponding with Sir *K. Digby*, is ſaid to have other kind of furnaces than any of *Glauber*'s, which will be erected ere long amongſt ourſelves, to proſecute really philoſophical ſtudies. For you muſt know, that a general chemical council, not far from *Charing-croſs*, ſits often, and hath ſo behaved itſelf hitherto, that things ſeem now to haſten towards ſome ſettlement; and we poor and ſickly creatures, begin to conceive hopes of being able ſhortly to ſupport our burthens. As for Mr. *Clodius*'s philoſophical wonders, if they were in my hands or poſſeſſion, you ſhould ſoon be an eye-witneſs of them though you were at this diſtance. But my chemical ſon aſſures me, they are fitteſt to be reſerved to that happy converſation, which it is ſo much prayed and longed for on both ſides. In the mean time, though the great medicinal arcana be not yet prepared, he hath done, with God's bleſſing upon certain ſpecifics, ſo many and ſtrange cures already, as are counted no leſs than miraculous; or, to uſe Sir *Kenelm*'s words, conjuring. They are about an univerſal laboratory, to be erected after ſuch a manner as may redound, not only to the good of this iſland, but alſo to the health and wealth of all mankind.

mankind. I ſuppoſe you have heard, how that Sir *Kenelm* is in very good favour with the lord protector; his ſequeſtration is taken off, and as ſoon as he hath gotten his lands into his own poſſeſſion, (which will be ſuddenly) he ſpeaks of engaging ſix or ſeven hundred pounds for his own part in the foreſaid laboratory, beſides ſome other friends which he can procure. He proteſted ſeriouſly unto me, that in all his travels and converſes with the choiceſt wits, both in *Italy* and *France*, he hath not met ſo much of theoretical ſolidity and practical dexterity both together, as he finds in my chemical ſon; and therefore is reſolved to improve that prize accordingly, which providence hath brought to his hands. He hath many excellent ſecrets and experiments of all ſorts, yea, ſome arcana of the higheſt nature, which he hath already freely (yet *ſub fide ſilentii*) imparted into his breaſt; and is purpoſing to ſend for all his papers out of *France*, that he may put them into his cuſtody and management. Both their judgments and experiences agree mightily together, to the very amazement of each other. And there wants nothing to the perfecting of the grand deſign, but that you are not preſent with them, without whoſe intereſt we have no mind that it ſhould be conſummated. In the mean time, he hath been inſtrumental to ingulph my ſon with the practice of phyſic into ten or twelve families of the greateſt of his acquaintance, which take up ſo much already of his time, both day and night, that he hath no leiſure to devote himſelf to your ſervice, and deſires of correſponding with you, or making out of the better ſort of phyſics, with ſome of the much deſired and longed for arcana. He hath written for an expert ancient old laborant, which hath lived with Mr. *Morian*, who is like to be here very ſhortly, now the peace between both commonwealths hath been proclaimed ſo many days ago. The laborant alſo is very much commended for his mineral ſkill in divers reſpects. My ſon aſſures you, that he will not fail to prepare the ludus after *Helmontius*'s way, as ſoon as it is poſſible. The rare medicine for curing the gout is yet but extant in the recipe or proceſs, which Mr. *Morian* got from *Coen*, and hath ſince communicated to Mr. *Clodius*, who promiſed to ſend ſome other medicines, which are ready by the firſt occaſion, as you have directed. The famous lithotomiſts courſe for the ſtone is very welcome, but is counted no great jewel by my ſon. Sir *Kenelm* commends hugely the medicine of the *virga aurea*, which *Barcleius*, in his *Euphormio*, hath ſo remarkably diſcovered to the world, though little taken notice of, in compariſon of thoſe few which have uſed the ſame with admirable ſucceſs. I am now endeavouring to get the ſight of the forenamed book, and by my next, God willing, you ſhall have a tranſcript of it. The greateſt ſecret you ever knew in ſurgery, which you mention, as imparted and incloſed in Mr. *Clodius*'s letter, was not found in it. I hope it is not otherwiſe miſcarried. That of the lithotomiſts to me, was found in the company of your deareſt ſiſter, which ſhe faithfully delivered unto me, not knowing how it was come into the letters written to herſelf. I beſeech you, Sir, do not forget to ſend in your next the forementioned ſecret, with thoſe other chirurgical rarities, which you have made a ſhift, as your phraſe is, to poſſeſs yourſelf of. The rare chirurgical ones which I have purchaſed of late, are contained in the adjoined printed paper of Mr. *Morian*'s communication, which Mr. *Van Muſſig* can interpret. The chirurgical ſeveral oils therein mentioned, are ſent unto me by the forenamed laborant; of which I ſhall give you farther notice when they are arrived. The peace with the *Hollanders* doth no leſs rejoice us, than it doth thoſe nobler ſouls in *Ireland*. To further the philoſophical commerces therefore, in ſome meaſure, I am intending ſhortly to write to the poſſeſſors of the late Dr. *Boate*'s papers, to publiſh thoſe in print beyond the ſeas, which contain the *Natural Hiſtory* of *Ireland*, written in *Low-Dutch* originally as he told me in his life-time. For I ſuppoſe this may be one means, whereby *Ireland* may

be

be peopled again and get good tenants; especially if the other parts which are wanting to that history, were more particularly discovered and described. *Coen* hath neither *England* nor the *Low Countries* made happy by his last visits. For Mr. *Morian* hath written twice, that he is arrived at *Hamburgh*, where he hath found that other *Faber*, which was before engaged in some mineral and chemical works. But since they have been together, the good man at *Amsterdam* complains, that both of them have been (to use his own words) *magis muti quam pisces*. If he knew that my son hath lately gotten from some other hand his greatest mystery, I dare prophesy he would not be so long silent and suspence as hitherto he hath been. I read with some pleasure, that Dr. *Petty* and yourself have lately been making fine discoveries in anatomy. The ingenious doctor told me divers months ago, of certain musical and dialling anatomies invented by him. But because I have heard nothing more of them, a farther discovery from your hand will always be very welcome. There are other fine discoveries made by the *Bohemian* baron *Misneck*, lately sent to this commonwealth from the duke of *Courland*, whereby both watches and dials will suffer much if he can make good his invention. The discoveries are as yet made only to a few of his most confiding friends. Only I have learnt in the general, that he can make a most exact and perfect dialling use, as I may so call it, from the knowledge of the circulation of blood in a man's body, if I have been rightly informed. If I could have gotten a copy of two pretty large volumes, lately brought over by a gentleman of singular quality, and who lodgeth in the best room of my house (for so much my chemical son doth love and honour him) at this present; I would have sent it into *Ireland* to put it to a trial, whether you could find any more of these fine discoveries, which you promise to impart at more leisure. The titles of them are these. *Thomæ Bartholini Vasa Lymphatica nuper Hafniæ in Animantibus inventa. Et Hepatis Exequiæ*, 1653. 2. *Ejusdem Dubia Anatomica de Lacteis Thoracicis. Et, an Hepatis Funus immutet Medendi Methodum*, 1653. 3. *Ejusdem historiarum anatomicarum centuria* I. & II. 1654.

FROM *Upsal* in *Sweden* was likewise sent unto me somewhat, which I have not imparted to you for ought I can remember: it is called, *Nova Exercitatis Anatomica. Exhibens Ductus Hepaticos aquosos. Et Vasa Glandularum serosa. Nunc primum inventa aeneisque figuris delineata. Ab Olao Rudbeck Sweco, Cui accessere aliæ ejusdem Observationes Anatomicæ*. Thus you see what the *Danish* and *Swedish* world is attempting and transacting in these affairs of learning. I wish that Dr. *Petty* would shew himself to the world by some rare piece or other. For since the non-performance or non-divulging of the invention of his double writing, his credit is mightily impaired in *England*, and other nations which have heard of it. Those that know the way, which Mr. *Wren* doth use, say his art of double writing is not worth a rush; for it can never be readily practised. Honest Mr. *Dymock* is blamed almost by every body, though the fault in my judgment, be as much, if not more, in them that blame him. The earl of *Worcester* is buying *Vauxhall* from Mr. *Trenchard*, to bestow the use of that house upon *Gasper Calehof* and his son, as long as they shall live; for he intends to make it a college of artisans: which, if it go forward, I shall get Mr. *Dymock* into it, though I had rather he should superintend a college of husbandmen whensoever it can be founded. Yesterday I was invited by the famous *Thomas Bushel* (for I suppose you have seen his *Mineral Overtures* in print) to *Lambeth-Marsh*, to see part of that foundation or building, which is designed for the execution of my lord *Verulam*'s *New Atlantis*. I make no question, your dearest sister hath written to you of Mr. *Dury*'s going into *Germany* with Mr. *Pell*. Since his departure I have printed a treatise of his, concerning a body of practical divinity, to be compiled out of *English* authors,

authors, which is very worth your reading, and therefore ſhall ſend you ſome copies of it. *The Political Viſion* be pleaſed to tender, with my humble ſervice to your noble brother the earl of *Corke*. Thus begging your pardon, for giving you ſo tedious a trouble, with my large ſcribbling, and preſenting again the humble and faithful ſervices of my wife, ſons, and daughters, I profeſs myſelf unfeignedly,

Dear Sir,

May 8, 1654. your moſt affectionate,
and moſt obliged humble ſervant,
SAM. HARTLIB.

Dear SIR,

MY laſt was dated the 9th of *May*, which was a very huge, if not voluminous anſwer to your laſt of the 21ſt of *April*, with a ſhort letter alſo from my chemical ſon. Yeſterday I ſent you a packet, wherein were 15 copies more of the interrogatories for *Ireland*, two copies of Mr. *Dury*'s laſt treatiſe concerning a body of practical divinity, and an *Helmontian* manuſcript, which Mr. *Clodius* had lent to Mr. *Morian*. I cauſed it to be tranſcribed out of the original, which is very faulty in divers places, ſo that ſcarce any ſenſe can be made of them; but I fear the tranſcript is much more faulty, which I had not time to read over, leſt I ſhould have neglected the preſent opportunity of ſending packets. The title of the foreſaid manuſcript is, *Magna virtus verborum et rerum*, about five ſheets of paper. I ſuppoſe Mr. *Clodius* will be able to ſupply the defects, who was fully reſolved by this very occaſion to have ſent you ſome of his medicaments, but that the beſt of them, which is now preparing, could not be ready. But he hopes it will be done within ſix or eight days, God willing, and then he purpoſeth to ſend it with the firſt, with a proof of his other phyſical preparations which he counts not ſo extraordinary. In the mean time I cannot but tranſmit this way the high reſpects, which he beareth towards your own perſon: for Sir *K. D.* of whom I have written ſo largely in my laſt, being yeſterday morning with me at my own houſe, and preſſing moſt earneſtly the accepting of his generous offers towards my ſon (for a plentiful proviſion of himſelf and family for two years, with the furniſhing of a complete laboratory) I would give him no other anſwer, but that I would acquaint Mr. *Clodius* with his reſolves, leaving him to the freedom of his own determination. He hath not yet been with Sir *K.* but when I related the matter unto him, before I could paſs my opinion upon it, he replied — *Timeo Danaos ſua dona ferentes*—I will determine nothing before Mr. *Boyle* be arrived. For whether his eſtate will ſuffer him to contribute little or much for the carrying on of all our phyſical and chemical affairs and deſigns, he alone is to be entruſted with a full and entire communication of them all and others, as we ſhall adviſe amongſt ourſelves. He ſaid indeed, that Sir *K.* was as gallant a gentlemen as ever he had met withal, but yet he could diſcern rather gallantry than goodneſs in the frame of his ſpirit, and of all his actions, both which he had found ſo eminently and ſuperlatively in your own converſation. For my part, I was more thoroughly gladded (if you dare believe me) with this ſolid judgment and affections of my ſon, than with any treaſure of knowledges and experiments, which he ſeems to poſſeſs or to purſue. After he hath conferred again with Sir *K.* he will, it may be, teſtify, under his own hands, theſe very reſpects unto yourſelf. I have found that paſſage concerning the cure of the ſtone, which the gallant knight ſo highly extolled, in *Barcl. Euph.* Satyr. p. 1. of a *Leyden* or *Amſterdam* edition in theſe following words:

—*Statim notiſſimam herbam oculis meis ſubjicit Æſculapius, quæ calculo bellum indixit multo felicius, quam aut veratrum amentiæ, aut vulneribus Aſciros. Hæc lanceatis foliis piloque ita brevi, ut pene curioſos oculos fallat, crenis denique tenuibus, et ſæpe in obtuſam ſpeciem oras ſecantibus, mediocriter aſſurgit. Radix cauliſque lignea ſubtiliora ſuccum in herbam transferunt. Planta ad ingenium terræ nunc cubitalis, plerumque eminentior, inſigne faſtigium floribus ad examen turgentibus cingit; et virgæ aureæ eſt nomen, ſive quoniam aureæ ac pæne divinæ virtutis eſt, ſive quod præſtantis metalli colorem exigui floris venuſtas æmulatur. Cæterum contuſum in renibus calculum in innoxium pulverem ſolvit. Non in latere, non in veſica dolor; adeo ut tam facili remedio pudeat calculum timuiſſe. Et enim in hyemem ſiccatur æſtivis umbris planta, et ubi gravitas lateris coeuntem morbem præſagit, aureus pulvis ad drachmam mere delibutus ſumitur, ſive ovo liviſſime cocto permixtus. Sed mihi non erat ad manum tam prætioſus pulvis. Itaque recentem adhuc herbam jubeo Fibullium mandere. Nihil eo die viſum eſt ad morbum feciſſe medicamentum: ſed biduo deinde repetitum, ſupra fidem eſt, quam egregie refellerit acerbiſſimum morbum: ſordidus pulvis abunde veſicam exonerabat, cænoſumque ſaccharum pæne ſanguinis imagine pingebat. Jam ventriculo robur redierat, jam corpori toti vigor, et mihi ad perfectionem artis medicæ ſola deerat laurea et emptitii teſtimonii liber. Hactenus Barclaius.* If Mr. *Clodius*'s laborant come in time, I ſhall endeavour to get this phyſic alſo prepared after his better way. By the laſt poſt I got from a counſellor's hand of the elector of *Brandenburgh* theſe lines.

—*Inviſit me heri quidam nuperrimè Ratiſbona profectus, qui ibidem ſingularem junioris Helmontii notitiam habuit. Is probitatem ac beneficentiam ejus inſigniter deprædicabat, eumque apud Cæſarem electorem Moguntiacum, alioſque principes, et in ſublimi gradu conſtitutas perſonas, magna verſari in authoritate, mihi referebat, quamvis ipſe Germanam veritatem rotunde dicere non dubitaret. Aulici vero ſtatus tædium omnino eum jam tum percepiſſe, ſolitariamque vitam agere decreviſſe. Ratiſbonæ commoratum, inſignia ſibi veſtimenta conficienda curaſſe, ut hoc ipſo eo commodior ad magnates ſibi pateret aditus. Cum vero locum mutaret, diſceſſumque pararet diſtributis aliiſque dono datis magnificis ac pretioſis iſtis veſtibus, inveteratam rubri coloris togam pelle ſeu corio ſubductam, propriaque manu ſarcinatam (cum non ſolum ſartoriæ, ſed ut reliquarum ferme artium omnium peritus ſit) induere, iterque ſuum plurimum pedibus perficere. In egenos ac neceſſitate preſſos valde eſſe munificum, ſiquidem Ratiſbonæ aliquem, qui ſolvendo non erat, ne infamiæ notam ſubiret, aliquot centum imperialibus ex diverſorio redemit, neſcientibus cæteris, unde tantæ fuit particeps pecuniæ. Curare hinc inde pauperes ancipiti et acuto morbo laborantes. Artem vero aurificam omnino eum repudiare, ludibrioque habitos chemicos hac de cauſa literis eum inviſentes auriperdos vocare.* The letter is dated the 5th of *May*, 54. Another counſellor of the ſaid elector, who lodgeth in my houſe (as I intimated in my former) tells me of an antimonium roſatum, which he had ſome years ago to ſmell unto, as far ſurpaſſing roſes and other curious odours. Alſo that he had been very credibly informed of another of his acquaintance in *Germany*, which has had aurum roſatum yielding a far more tranſcendent fragrancy than that of antimony. If gold could be made thus vegetable, really I ſhould prefer it before the producing of the beſt roſes twice in a year. I fear I ſhall not be able to keep that worthy forenamed gentleman, who for my ſake (for ſo he is pleaſed to phraſe it) is come into *England* for a ſhort time, ſo long till your happy arrival. But having begun to take the next and beſt courſe I could, have made him acquainted with your deareſt ſiſter, who perhaps will give you ſuch a character of him as he deſerves. He preſents alſo his moſt humble ſervice unto you. There is another, an *Engliſhman*, that hath been ſpecially recommended unto me by Sir *K. D.* His name is captain *Saunderſon* who hath been of the king's party, but intends now to ſettle himſelf with his family in *Ireland*, where he hath purchaſed land to the value of 200 *l.* a year. I have devoted him likewiſe after a ſpecial manner to your ſervice. For I find him a very

pretty

pretty gentleman, full of good arts and contrivances, but his main deſign is by a new experiment or ferment to make as much ſaltpetre as you pleaſe out of ſalt or ſea-water. When my chemical ſon ſpoke with him, he confeſſed that he had hit right on his ferment, which was his ſecret. I long for more letters from your hands, that they may furniſh me with occaſions of enlarging myſelf, and of gratifying your more particular deſires. Here you have a rude draught of Dr. *Jungius*'s Protonoetical Philoſophy, which as it lies in a pack bound about with ſuch coarſe expreſſions and terms as he uſeth makes no great ſhew; but if it were fully opened, a great deal would appear to be rich cloth of arras. This is the judgment or opinion of your,

Dear SIR,

moſt entirely aſſured

faithful friend to ſerve you,

SAM. HARTLIB.

FROM my houſe (which deſireth to have their moſt humble ſervice preſented unto you) near *Charing-croſs*, *May* 15, 1654.

* * * * * But before I ſhut theſe, I purpoſe to ſend to him for his anſwer to your laſt letter to incloſe it in mine. Mr. *Morian* writes again of *Glauber*, that he hath had a very dangerous fall from a waggon, ſpitting much blood, and if the fever prevail upon him he fears his life; which I pray God may be yet continued for giving many good hints, at leaſt to the ſtudiers of nature and arts. For, *Deus varie colit hunc mundi hortum & velut per areolas*, as *Lipſius* ſpeaketh. Laſt *Friday* the ſad news was brought to my lord protector of the death of that truly gracious, learned, and incomparable primate of *Ireland*, of whom, no doubt, you will hear more particulars from others. In my laſt I ſent a wrong letter for Mr. *Auſtin*, *A Monſieur Tugontloben*, which I deſire may be returned; for the gentleman, I hear, is gone to the duke of *Holſtein*, and I am to ſend this letter after him. I ſhall count it true civility in him, if he ſhall acquaint me with the proceedings of *Coen* from thence according to my inſtructions. For hitherto I have been able to learn nothing, but that that chemical and experimenting man hath ſpent vaſt ſums of monies out of the foreſaid duke's purſe, and that he hath brought nothing yet to perfection. But my ſon is greatly to blame for not writing to him ſo courteouſly as he is bound to do, according to that of the apoſtle's, "in honour preferring one another, *&c. &c.*" The adjoining is the true letter to Mr. *Auſtin*, as doth appear by the ſuperſcription. Sir *Richard Napier* can bear witneſs, how I waited two ſeveral days to have ſpoken with my lord protector but could not. That good and induſtrious ſoul will not be perſuaded of our dulneſs and untowardneſs for peopling of *England* with fruit-trees. Be pleaſed to let him know ſo much, and that Mr. *Batchelor* of *Eaton*, and Mr. *Langley* of *Pauls*, have promiſed to ſecond our applications with all their might and intereſts. When you are returned, God willing, you muſt needs make a viſit alſo into *Kent* to colonel *Blunt*'s ſeveral plantations, which will as much delight your obſervations. For I dare believe the well-grounded relations, that have been made unto me from time to time, of all his choice œconomical and georgical induſtries. If we cannot help Dr. *Horne* with that true and excellent ſpirit of vitriol, for the preſent, yet I believe a good account of Sir *K. Digby*'s MS. at *Oxford* will be obliging in the mean while. There is lately a very accurate and full catalogue made of all the MSS. in the ſeveral colleges of *Cambridge*, which I wiſh might be communicated in print; for I ſuppoſe there may be ſome chemical, phyſical, medicinal, and mechanical amongſt them. I am writing

to Mr. *Brereton* for the birch-water; for I remember he told us laſt year, that he could procure a great quantity of it out of *Cheſhire*. In my great paroxyſm I uſed it very much, but found no benefit by it. Mr. *Schlezer* preſents again his moſt humble ſervice to you. He bids me tell you that he hath an excellent nephretical ſtone, which ſhall be at your devotion, when you pleaſe to call for it. I thought to have mentioned ſomething concerning a very conſiderable huſbandry, laſt week imparted unto me, but I dare not weary your eyes or ears too long; ſubſcribing myſelf ever,

SIR,

Charing-Croſs, March 25, 56.

your entirely faithful
and moſt ready friend to ſerve you,
S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR,

YESTERDAY I received your laſt, ſignifying your return to *Oxford*. I pray God, that your health may be continued and increaſed, that it may be inſtrumental for the good and refreſhment of many. I am ſtill extremely full of pains, and have much ado either to write or to do any thing elſe. But if the Lord would diſcover the like powerful remedy againſt the inward piles, as he has done againſt the ſtone in the kidneys by a new medicine of my ſon *Clod* (which he is reſolved not eaſily to impart, and always to diſguiſe under ſome other name,) I ſuppoſe I ſhould draw near to a perfect cure. Above all recipes and medicines Dr. *Gliſſon* has commended to my ſon that of the lieutenant of the *Tower* againſt the piles. I expect my ſon every day, and if the foreſaid doctor has had any of thoſe ſuppoſitories in readineſs, I hope he will bring ſome of them along with him. In the time I need not tell you, that the moſt learned famous *Engliſh Æſculapius* (I mean Dr. *Harvey*) is departed this world. I expect your cenſures, obſervations, and communications, upon my former letters. Here you have a vindication of the decaying clover-graſs, written and ſent unto me by Mr. *Wood* from *Dublin*. If you could furniſh me I would ſay it were very fit, that ſome directions were publiſhed concerning clover-graſs, as proper to take off the prejudice that is of late againſt it, and to inform punctually in what ſoil it is an improvement, and in what manner it is to be uſed.

As firſt, It may be laid down at a certainty, how deep the root deſcendeth; where it proves beſt, and where it is indifferent, and where it faileth to be an improvement for want of due depth.

SECONDLY, How it proves in a ſtiff clay land or wheat land; how in a hot ſandy rye land; how in a very ſtony land; and how in a chalky land, *&c.* and in which kind of ſoil it laſteth longeſt.

THIRDLY, It may be laid down, what beſt uſe may be made of the ground when the clover decays.

FOURTHLY, It ſhould be carefully advertiſed, how it is to be uſed; for ſometimes it hath been ſeen good, and yet come to nothing by many kinds of miſcarriages.

IF the cattle bite it the firſt year, ſome therefore will deſtroy, and ſome they will pull up by the root; and ſometimes the ſecond year it will be rooted up, eſpecially after moiſt weather and after a long drought; if it be bitten, it will die; and if it be mowed in unſettled weather, it will ſoon be tainted; if it be ſuffered to be too far ſeeded before it be mowed, it would be like hard ſticks, too coarſe for moſt kind of cattle. We want clear directions, how we may follow the cuſtom of *Flanders* to decline all theſe inconveniencies. I long to ſee what has occurred to you in your journey. To me, of late, out of *France* have occurred theſe following lines:

"IN

" IN paſſing by *Tours*, and hearing there of certain ſtrange engines by which they " water the tabbies and mohairs, we went to ſee them, and found it an excellent in- " vention brought out of *Italy*, from *Lucca*, by the father of him that hath at preſent " the chief workmanſhip thereof, named monſieur *Chauma*. I wonder the engine is " no more taken notice of, nor the uſe thereof brought into *England*; which certain- " ly might eaſily be done, by ſuch as are ſkilled in mechanics." Thus far a travel- ling friend. I ſhall tell this Dr. *Kuffler* (whom I have not ſeen theſe fourteen days) of your intimations to tell ſtrange ſtories of the benefit to be made by the watering of land. I ſuppoſe you remember the great expectations I have of the Quaker of *Dur- ham*, *Anthony Pierſon*, his promiſes of huſbandry. I have not yet obtained any thing from his hands; but major general *Lilburne* pretends to know his univerſal compoſt; and a friend of his was pleaſed to entruſt me with it, in theſe words: " Plough up " your barren ground, and croſs-plough it, as they uſe to do thoſe lands which they " burn for bate or betting. Then gather the turfs, and lay the firſt courſe of turfs " (*e. g.* of two yards ſquare, the graſſy or heathy ſide upwards) and ſprinkle upon it " a ſmall quantity of unſlacked lime. Then lay the ſecond courſe (leſs than the " firſt) with the green ſide downwards upon the lime; and ſo build up your heap. " Let it lie half a year thus. If you will ſow winter corn (as wheat or rye) upon it, " let it lie from ſpring to ſeed-time. If you ſow barley, *&c.* let it lie from autumn " to ſeed-time. The beſt time to turn it up is, when it is moſt moiſt; for that will " make the lime run and burn the better. A greater quantity of lime, or laid in any " other manner on the land, burns out the vegetable ſalt and ſpoils it, as is expe- " rienced in the Weſt by colonel *Monck*. When it hath lain half a year thus, it will " be ſo mellow that it will run like aſhes. Then ſpread, harrow, and ſow it. If it " want depth of earth upon the harrowing, to cover the ſeed, plough it again." Thus I have diſcovered unto you, that magnet of huſbandry without any reſerves; for I am very ambitious to ſhew myſelf upon all occaſions,

Honoured Sir,

Charing-croſs, June 30, 1657.

your moſt humble and ever faithful ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Aug.* 4, 57.

LAST *Tueſday*, *July* 29, I wrote largely, incloſing a great packet from *Ireland*, and ſomething of weather-glaſſes, which I thought would have been very welcome unto you; but I have not had one line from you, whether they have been ſafely de- livered or not. The incloſed I got yeſterday by the poſt from *Ireland*, with a letter from Mr. *Worſley*, dated at *Holy-head*, *July* 29. He preſents his moſt humble ſervice. I am told again—As often as you commend heath, you may do well to put them in mind of adding ſome cordial plant, as ſage, or balm, which will add ſome help to keep the drink the longer. And you may put them in mind of *Roman* wormwood, which agrees with all the months that have *R*, as for oiſters. We (in *Herefordſhire*) begin to plant it, a little of it does much towards the preſervation of the beer. But that heath begets madneſs, is againſt our long and conſtant experience; and how can it be ſo, it being apparently a releaſe to a hard ſpleen as perfectly as tamariſk? But I inſiſt upon the neceſſity of adding ſome other cordial herbs, to prevent the drink from ſourneſs. In *Herefordſhire*, as a powerful preſerver, they bake wormwood in a loaf of coarſe bread, and break this bread very ſmall into the ale or beer. They ſay it does much

pleaſe

pleaſe the taſte, and preſerve the drink. You may ſmile at it, but my witty neighbour to increaſe the ſtore of his *Roman* wormwood, pleached it down in the way of propagation, and it ſucceeded in great plenty. I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful

and aſſured ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR,

ON *Monday* I received your laſt of *Aug.* 29, but could not anſwer the ſame, (by reaſon of divers commiſſions and letters, which my lady had laid upon me) on *Tueſday* next, but ſent only under a covert one from Mrs. *Drury*, and another from Mr. *Worſley*, which alſo by the laſt poſt I received from *Ireland*. It ſeems that the 26th of *Aug.* (which is the date of his letter) he did not yet know of the council's order, which my ſon hath ſent unto him. For, beſides that to yourſelf, he ſends another to my lord deputy, and is very earneſt that it may be ſeconded. But on *Tueſday* laſt, I told my lady, that the buſineſs was not only fully paſt the approbation of the council, but likewiſe his highneſs's conſent; ſo that what remains muſt now be diſpatched in *Ireland*. My ſon believes, that the foreſaid order will give Mr. *Worſley* ample ſatisfaction. I am more troubled at your weakneſs and diſtempers, than at my own pains, which rather, God be thanked, diminiſh than increaſe. The ulcerous matter is likewiſe no more diſcernible, as it was for divers weeks before; but every day almoſt there comes away little pieces of ſtones, whereby my ſon *Clodius* concludes that the ſtone is diſſolving. Mr. *Van Muſſig* ſhewed me his doctoral charter; but alas! this will cure no diſtempers nor diſeaſes. Within two or three weeks he is going for *Ireland*, preſenting his humble ſervice. As for the elixir proprietatis, he is very poſitive and peremptory, that there is no better comforting cordial in the world for weak or aged people. Truly I have found it ſo hitherto, without any inconveniency at all. The public adviſer of this work gives this following advertiſement. "Next unto "*Vaux-hall*, in *Lambeth*, liveth one *Thomas Smart* an artiſt, who conſidering the ne- "ceſſity of the times, and alſo being moved thereunto by divers pious and godly "miniſters, for the welfare of this nation, doth hereby ſignify that he hath one me- "dicine, which, by God's bleſſing, perfectly cures all gripings of the bowels, looſe- "neſſes, bloody fluxes, and their kinds. Alſo another medicine, that is a ſpeedy "and perfect cure for epidemical, feveriſh, and aguiſh diſeaſes, that now ſo much "annoy. The medicines are ſafe, not unpleaſant to take, and for one half crown as "much as will be ſufficient for one perſon. *Probatum eſt.*" Thus far the adviſer. Do you believe theſe medicines? Some weeks ago Dr. *Broome* told me himſelf, what a wonderful cure he hath performed on Sir *James* (as I take it) *Cunningham*; but, poor gentleman, is brought over againſt my houſe, where he is to be cut of the ſtone within a day or two. Dr. *Walter*, at *Hamburgh*, writes very ſubſtantial and experimental letters to my ſon. I adviſe him to entertain carefully a ſtrict and faithful correſpondence with ſo able and ſucceſsful a phyſician. I had a curſory reading of one of his letters, wherein he commends hugely eſſentium cervinum. Yeſterday I had from *Tunbridge* theſe following lines:

"IT hath pleaſed God to viſit me with a long and laſting ague, which gives little "intermiſſion for ſtudy. I have had a relapſe or two, and after them ſuch immo- "derate ſweats at night, as have conſumed me to ſkin and bones. For the ſweats, "the phyſician and I am not pleaſed; only the laſt week, by God's good providence,

"a gentle-

" a gentlewoman who came to viſit me, aſſured me, upon her own knowledge, that " two perſons viſited with this late ſickneſs, and by ſweats likewiſe brought into a " conſumption, have within a fortnight, or little more time recovered, and are now alſo " grown fatter and healthier than formerly, by the only uſe of the *Turkiſh* drink coffee. " The one of theſe perſons thus cured was a young gentlewoman, and the other an " ancient gentleman; and of the truth of this I doubt nothing, the authors being all " perſons of quality and credit. Upon this, I was earneſtly preſſed to ſend for a bot- " tle; and ſo I had one laſt week; and though I have taken it but three mornings, " yet I find my ſtomach more clean and ſtronger to digeſt, my brain clearer, and " my ſweats ſomewhat abated. And I am the rather convinced of the efficacy of it, " becauſe, as my lord *Verulam* commends it, it is the *Turks* wine; and they, as I un- " derſtand, are generally healthy, ſtrong, fat, and big men. And as their chief feed- " ing is rice (which alſo I find a great nouriſher, and amongſt the variety of meats " provided for me, I am weary of them all but this) ſo their chief drink is coffee, " at which they tipple, with a fool, to make them ſport. Now, Sir, the intent of this " relation is not to inform you, either of the drink, or berry it is made of (of which " I have taſted, and find the drink to have its only taſte without other ingredient) or " the virtues of it; to all which I believe you are no ſtranger; but only give you in " this teſtimony, that you may ſpread its benefit towards this new diſeaſe which I " hear is with you; and not only in theſe parts, but elſewhere, in *Oxfordſhire*, *Norfolk*, " in *Hampſhire*, *&c.* whereſoever an epidemical diſeaſe uſeth to rage in the inlands " and ſea-coaſts by us, *Rocheſter*, *Dover*, *Rye*, *&c.* Another purpoſe of this paper is, " to beg of you ſome of the freſheſt berries, which may be had of ſome *Turkiſh* mer- " chant, with his directions to make it drink; which, if it may be had, I know you " may command; and this for my own recovery. I have ſent now for another bot- " tle, and it will laſt me a week more; but to ſave this trouble, I beg yours, and " hope they will ſpare of their ſtore, and diſcover the uſe of it to one who intends no " gain by it. Sir, now I am upon this ſeeking for cordials (which daily I take to " ſupport my ſpirits in this weakneſs) I find in the *Arabian* cordials in our *Pharma-* " *copœia*, in Andromachus or *Venice* Treacle, a great quantity of raw ſilk; ſome of " which I deſire of you likewiſe, if you can direct me withal, whether it hath any " correctives or may be taken alone, as I find it preſcribed by *Culpepper*. I ſhall once " more trouble you for eggs of the worm. For here we have trees, and I intend to " plant more; but of this not at preſent." Thus far a public-hearted learned friend. Sir, do you know whither to addreſs me for the B* berries? I have written to know what will pleaſe the ſecret-monger. Mr. *Wood* tells me of a rare one for a new kind of graffing of vines, which he hopes to attain and to communicate to me. If you have peruſed my diſcourſe concerning *Ireland*, I deſire ſtill your impartial opinion about it. Since my laſt I have not ſeen Dr. *Kuffler*; but when I do, I ſhall acquaint him with what you have written, being upon this, or any other occaſions,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt aſſured

faithful ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

JUST now Mr. *Dalgarno* is come to my houſe.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Sept.* 8, 57.

NOT only Mr. *Dalgarno*, Mr. *Morſtein*, Sir *Charles Culpepper*, but alſo another *Polonian* gentleman have kept me ſo long that I cannot enlarge, having ſeveral things which muſt alſo by this very poſt be imparted to *Ireland*. The one of the incloſed I received by the laſt poſt from thence, and the other from *Saumur*. Dr. *Van Muſſig* purpoſes to go to *Oxford* on *Thurſday* next. He triumphs to have lighted upon a ſpecial ſecret or medicine (*multorum morborum curativum*) at *Amſterdam*. But I durſt not aſk the receipt of it, he prizing the ſame at ſo high a rate; or, it may be, he ſuſpects me as if I would communicate the ſame into your boſom, and therefore reſolves rather to gratify you with it by his own hands; at which kind of charity, or ambition, I ſhall never be offended. If he make no offer, I pray uſe freedom to ſignify to him, that I have intimated ſomething unto you concerning a ſpecial medicine, which he rejoices to have found at *Amſterdam*. I received a letter for Mr. *Oldenburg*, which ſhall be ſent by the next poſt with all care and faithfulneſs. Mr. *Oldenburg* complains, that, beſides the two great packets, he has received no more letters. But he may thank himſelf for it, having ſent the addreſs for them but a few weeks ago. I am ſure there is no want on my part. Your laſt is dated *Sept.* 5. I am ſurpriſed with a kind of aſtoniſhment, that Mr. *Worſley* hath not anſwered my ſon's nor my own letters, which he might have done fourteen days ago. For I have anſwer upon my other letters from thence, which were ſent at the ſame time. By this very poſt I have written again, and my ſon promiſes to do the like, with ſending another copy of the order with its amendments, and a report that it is paſſed both his highneſſes's and the council's conſent. If he had ſignified his ſatisfaction (for the order is fully granted and drawn up, according to all the inſtructions which he had left behind) the foreſaid order might have been ſent by this poſt to the council in *Ireland*. My ſon is now more and more contriving, how, with the beſt grace and advantage it may be tranſmitted. For, as ſoon as he ſhall have underſtood his approbation, he intends that the order, with the addition of ſome affectionate clauſes, ſhall be turned into a letter written by the council here to the council in *Ireland*, under the council's own ſeal, that it may be diſtinguiſhed from the ordinary paſſing or imparting of orders from hence to *Ireland*, that it may appear a buſineſs of extraordinary import and concernment. The next poſt I hope will bring Mr. *Worſley*'s reſolves. I have alſo preſſed much upon him the performance of his other promiſe, concerning cellars and viniſications of liquors. Mr. *Brereton* propoſes thus: "I like well Mr. *Beale*'s addition of "heath, and I have not yet received the promiſed account of it from the phyſician I "wrote to you of. Your friend there ſpeaks of recovering ſour or dead beer by fer- "mentation, and that hops doth well to keep beer long together. I am of opinion, "that if it be very well fermented and purified at firſt, it will keep of itſelf, provided "you exclude air. And that it is really ſo, is ſeen in the *Scottiſh* ale, whereof I gave "you the proceſs which you have inſerted in your laſt edition of your *Legacy*, page "231. Now to prevent that waſting which is there ſpoken of, I think it would be "good to put ſo much oil at the top of the veſſel, as would cover the whole ſurface "of the drink at the largeſt part of the veſſel; by which means the oil ſtill lying on "the top of the drink would infallibly keep in the ſpirits, as is known to divers "merchants, vintners, and gentlemen about *London:* for ſo they keep in bottles that "hold about two quarts, their rich *Italian* wines, which will not by themſelves endure "the ſea; and I have drank of them at *London* in *April*, ſo that they were about half "a year old and very pleaſant, full of ſpirit, and no taſte of the oil at all. But be- "cauſe

" cauſe oil of olives would be too dear, let it be conſidered whether rape oil may " not be ſo clarified as to ſerve the turn; for I remember that in *Holland* they uſed " to fry their fiſh in it, which ſurely they would not do if it gave any ill ſavour: and " if it do not, I do not ſee why the ſame oil may not ſerve again and again: for all " this while I ſuppoſe, that the drink ſo kept muſt be firſt exceedingly well fer- " mented, clarified, and drawn off the lees." Thus far he. I pray give in your obſervations upon this to him, who is really,

Honoured Sir,

your entirely devoted ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured Sir, *December* 8, 1657.

LAST *Thurſday* I ſent divers letters, which I then received by the poſt, under my cover. This encloſed I had from *Saumur*. I got alſo a ſhort one from Dr. *Petty*, in theſe words: " The reſentment I had of the challenge, was not ſuch " as to need ſo formal and troubleſome an apology. To ſhew you that I am not " angry, or vindicative upon the gentleman, I will forbear noting ſeveral impoſſi- " bilities in his contrivances of the dials to all the ſenſes. When I am got clear of " Mr. *Worſley*, I will have ſuch another bout at learning, as ſhall both ſtrain my " abilities, and demonſtrate my willingneſs to advance it: in which perſuaſion I " deſire you and my friends to remain; for what I have been doing here is but to " prepare me thereunto. This is the twelfth letter I have written this night; where- " fore excuſe this brevity." Thus far the rich doctor. I have written to Mr. *Worſley*, that he would unriddle his meaning in that one paſſage. I have the dial, with moſt of the ſenſes, in my poſſeſſion, and therefore cannot but ſmile at his threatened impoſſibilities. Mr. *Worſley* is expecting ſtill ſome engagement upon his phyſico-aſtrological letter: but except I have an account from *Oxford* upon the fore- ſaid letter, I am forbidden farther communications. Mr. *Mercator* writes ſomething, which I know will not diſpleaſe him: his words are theſe. *Impoſitum eſt mihi judicium Genethliacon ex hora Nativitatis Domini mei junioris proferre, & credo aliquid veri ſubeſſe quoad temperamentum & conſtitutionem humorum; ſed invenio anteceſſores aſtrologos rem pulcherrimam vaniſſimis commentis obſcuraſſe, ideoque difficultate laboro ubique. Nam aſſeve- rare nihil volo, quod ratione certa ſtabilire nequeam & tuo ſocordiam priorum. Nam omnia hic (ut fere in cæteris artibus) ex fundamentis denuo ſunt extruenda. Ego vero mallem etiam meum in aliis prius captis ponere, quæ interea deliteſcunt in pulvere. Atque hoc male me habet.* I received a ſpecial commiſſion from Sir *Charles Culpepper*, who, preſenting his humble ſervice, entreated me moſt paſſionately to put you in mind of the promiſe you were pleaſed to make unto him, about the new invented plough of Dr. *Wilkins*. He bids me to aſſure you, that if you can procure one for him, that you will lay a very great obligation upon him. I humbly beg, for my own uſe, the ſpirit of vege- tables againſt fevers. Here you have a copy of Dr. *Horne*'s letter, which contains many conſiderable paſſages in it; on which if you would enlarge yours, the exche- quer of the commonwealth of learning would be the richer. Divers weeks ago I preſented you with ſome demands of Mr. *Beale*'s concerning inſects, which were prin- cipally intended for Dr. *Starkey*. I have obtained an anſwer from ſome other good hand, which I thought fit not only to tender to Mr. *Beale*, but alſo to yourſelf, as you will find by one of the papers here adjoined. I ſhould be glad to ſee how you entertain either the divinity, or the philoſophy of it. My pains are very tedious unto

me, and much work lies yet upon my hands; but nothing ſhall hinder me from ſubſcribing myſelf,

Honoured Sir,

your ever faithful, and

moſt obliged ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

SIR, Mr. *Dury* told me this morning, that he believes my lord *Broghill* is landed before this time in *England*.

Honoured Sir, *January* 7, 1657-8.

THE poſts not coming regularly, as they were wont to do, I did not get your laſt of *January* 2, till yeſterday. The foregoing to this, and which I have already anſwered, was dated *December* 28. I am hugely therefore troubled, that to this hour I have not yet ſeen your large letter, to which you refer yourſelf. The poſtage of letters are already paid by your laſt diſburſements. I am glad, that at *Oxford* they are ſenſible of any reformation in learning. The former King of *Denmark* took the ſame courſe with the lectures of his public profeſſors, as you write hath been ordered of late at *Oxford*. Laſt week I received a letter from the vice-chancellor of *Cambridge*, who was pleaſed to ſend me alſo the adjoined printed paper. The laſt *Iriſh* poſt brought a letter from Mr. *Worſley* to my ſon in theſe words: "I take very kindly your laſt to me, and that clear aſſurance you have given me of "your mindfulneſs and care in that buſineſs. This I do aſſure you, that the thing "intended is ſo real, that if the council here do but pleaſe to give equal counte- "nance to that, which they have done to others lately in their private concerns, the "propoſition will be made to (I judge at the leaſt) ten thouſand pounds. For I "have in my hand already a conſiderable ſtock aſſigned by the donors, and a proba- "bility of ſecuring near the whole ſum within leſs than a month's time, the council "giving the donors encouragement to go on. I took the freedom to write at large "to you the laſt week, and to give you ſeveral arguments for its diſpatch: but all "theſe now need not at all to be enforced, the thing being ſo near to be ſent; one "thing only, as you ſee a juſt occaſion for, I do not think inconvenient to take no- "tice of, and that is, that Dr. *Clarges* is actually ſatisfied his ten thouſand pounds, "and Capt. *Arthur* his at ſix years purchaſe preſent value, being the utmoſt favour "deſired by the donors. And I hope our friends on the other ſide will not be un- "mindful to ſuggeſt it here, by way of allowance of the juſtneſs and reaſonableneſs "of our propoſal." The letter is dated *December* 29. I think I told you already, that my ſon hath ſent him copies of all, which was as this week to be tranſmitted in the originals. Since *Monday* my ſon hath been ſo buſy, that I have not been able to have a farther account of him concerning this affair. Mr. Secretary continuing ill, and not meddling with buſineſſes, my lord *Fleetwood* had undertaken to get the letter to be ſigned by his highneſs to the council in *Ireland*, which was the only thing remaining to be done. What Mr. *Worſley* writes unto me, you will find in the encloſed paper. He concludes thoſe real paſſages with a complaint, as followeth: "I have "had a great mind to entertain you with a diſcourſe or two upon ſome other ſub- "jects; but providence hath hitherto joſtled me out of theſe ſedate purpoſes, by "bringing in, and throwing ſome other exerciſes upon me; and ſuch at preſent is "his bleſſed will, to which I therefore deſire willingly to ſubmit." Thus far Mr. *Worſley*. Some days ago Mr. *Smethwick* told me, that he had gotten at laſt Dr. *Lake's*

new invented water hour-glaſs. He ſaid, that he had tried it already above fourteen days, and found it ſo accurate, that it excels all the watches or clocks whatſoever. In a word, he counted it an exceeding great rarity, the like never hath been yet brought to perfection in that kind. I am acquainted with the doctor himſelf, (a civilian) who is now going for *Ireland* to exerciſe huſbandry; being entruſted by the lord of *Strafford* with his lands and poſſeſſions there. He told another friend of mine, that he would willingly beſtow one of his clepſydras upon me, but that he counted it no better than a trifle: but for all this, I do not deſpair of getting one of them either ſooner or later. Mr. *Beale* was the firſt man that diſcovered *Norden* of *Briſtol* unto me, with his invention of clepſydras; but ſince he hath advertiſed, that it will require ſome time to get one from thence. It may be, Sir, you have a greater intereſt there than any of us. I remember alſo, that in former years Dr. *Gauden* was very buſy about meaſuring of time this way. I long to hear more particulars of Dr. *Wilkins*'s philoſophical character. Mr. *Comenius* hath ſent lately to Mr. *Dalgarno* his idea of it; but it is ſo ſhort and general that it is not worth the imparting. Sir *Charles Culpepper*, though he be out of town, yet I know no ploughman can be ſo greedy of his meat, as he is after that invention: he begged not ſo much a ſcheme, as a mechanical model of it, or the thing itſelf, promiſing moſt willingly to pay for it. You ſpeak ſtill of the *German* vacuum as of no ordinary beauty; but the poet ſays, *Uritque videndo fœmina*. Juſt now I received another from you, dated *January* 4, referring me again to your large letter; but I having never gotten any ſuch letter, (as I told you alſo in the beginning) my mind is not a little tormented with the miſcarriage, or ſo long a delay of it. Hath it not been left behind at *Oxford?* I cannot remember that any of mine, or of my friends, have thus been dealt withal by our inland poſts. It muſt certainly be ſome miſtake or other. The amorous perſon is gone into *Cheſhire* for two or three weeks; his father ſeems now to be more willing to condeſcend to his deſires. But, I ſay again, I have not received the recipe of the wound-drink. Monſieur *Kratſhmer*'s (that is the *German*'s name, of whom I ſpake in my former) medicine againſt the ſtone is certainly moſt excellent, and abſolutely the beſt that ever I have uſed; but I have already ſpent all, ſo that a few drops more are only left. He hath revealed the recipe to *Clodius*, and offers to aſſiſt and diſpatch the preparation of it; but, to my very great perplexity, *Clodius* is again in ſuch a labyrinth, that he will be forced to break his ovens, and to remove to another houſe, which alſo is a new kind of undoing of him. I have obliged the gentleman thus far, that if you were in town I could prevail with him to ſhew you all along the making of that moſt ſingular medicine, which *Clodius* alſo, from the authority of it, muſt confeſs to be truly tranſcendent. However, I do here engage myſelf that you ſhall be made partaker of the true and full recipe of it in due time; for I have a very great and cordial reſpect to prevent, by the bleſſing of God, thoſe torments in yourſelf, which I have endured theſe many months, for want of ſo powerful and bleſſed a medicine, handed over by an extraordinary providence. My lord *B** and my lord *Barrimore* are expected in town this day, but I can learn nothing more of my lord *Broghill*. I remain ever,

SIR,

your humble ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *February* 2, 1657-8.

THE extremity of the frosty weather doth greatly increase my wonted torments. But having some little intermissions, I cannot bestow them better for the present, than by acknowledging the receipt of your last *January* 30, with the enclosed to Dr. *Secretary*, which I shall superscribe and send away by the post this night. Mr. *Worsley* sent me a big packet yesterday, but when it was opened, there was not a word unto myself, but another packet within addressed to my son *Hartlib*, with whom I have not been able to speak this day. It may be he hath been informed, how near I have been to the land of forgetfulness; yet I received another letter from him last week, dated *January* 20, wherein he entertains me with a large theological discourse concerning Prophecies, but concludes as followeth. "For that of the malt-"drying here, they do steep it about twenty-four hours, they spread it thin in the "drying of it, having upper floors to lay it upon, through which the wind freely "passeth, if there be any stirring. They dry it indifferently at any season, though "in the most temperate season they can dry most at a time; but they do it well "enough all the winter. The other friend, that is like to give you a visit, would "think a man much a fool, that would serve any man besides himself, or otherwise, "than in order to himself, being a wisdom common to this world. [And that honest "man, he means him to whom your letter is to be sent] you have so often taken "occasion to mention and desire my resolution of, is doubtless such a wise man, and "so as in that wisdom all his whole security is placed. And to all such it is as real a "gospel-saying, as it is a law-saying, *De non apparentibus, & non existentibus, eadem est* "*ratio.* But the Apostle tells us a better rule, faith is the evidence of things not "seen. Pray present my service to Mr. *Boyle*, and tell him, I am truly his servant, "yet I have not writ to him, partly in expectation weekly that I should receive "those papers from *Whitehall*, which are not yet come; partly by reason of a crisis "some affairs of mine here are under, which hath lately engaged, and will for a "while take up more of my time." Thus far he: Monsieur *D.* was pleased to tell me (but this must not be known abroad) that though he be displeased, yet that he is to enjoy, if not all, yet some of the benefits of it, at least two hundred a year. And if this should not be so, yet I shall never change my judgment to count him far more happy in serving that more general survey of all God's glory, and the God of human kind. For this is the honesty of that business, which will not be without signal providences, and special acquisitions and enjoyments better than *Dublin* or *Ireland* can afford. I shall not be wanting to obtain that secret which hath been imparted to Mr. *Milton*. It may be the public gentleman, that sent it unto him, will let me have a copy, in case the other should not come off readily with the communication of it. But if yours would ask it from Mr. *Milton*, I am confident he would not deny it. My son *Clodius* tells me the *German* physician, of whom I wrote before (*Kratshmer*) is a rare man for chemistry and physical knowledge and experience; and though he is not very willing that I should be admitted to any of his arcana, yet I believe the gentleman himself will hardly conceal any thing from the crazy and afflicted creature. Mr. *Morian* did promise me not long ago a few doses of *Glauber*'s universal medicine, but that he put too high a price upon it, at least his purse could not reach unto it. I dare not crave it from Mr. *Morian* for a secret reason: for having shot an arrow of charity at random towards *Zurich*, it lighted upon our resident there Mr. *Pell*, who hearing of his very low condition, and to have been assisted with 3 *l.* sterling by Dr. *Van Mussig*, ordered that the sum of 10 *l.* sterling should be made over to that worthy man out of the pension which the state doth pay him quarterly,

terly. But this being ſubject to many delays, Mr. *Haak* undertook in the mean time the paying of him by bill of exchange, which laſt week he acknowledged to have received. Now if I ſhould beg a few doſes of the *Glauberian* medicine, Mr. *Morian* might happily think, that I deſired to be gratified this way; which truly is far from my ſpirit and intentions. But I am confident, if I ſhould venture ſuch a requeſt upon him, he would certainly pay for the medicine, whatſoever it ſhould coſt, out of thoſe ſupplies which have been procured, by the bleſſing of God, upon my hearty recommendations; therefore I ſhall a little defer this matter, and wait for ſome other opportunity. As for Dr. *Bonet*, I have his expreſs engagement and promiſe, that as ſoon as his *omnium morborum curativum* is brought to perfection, (which he hopes will be done within a few weeks) I ſhall have many doſes of it, which I ſhall inſtantly certify you of as ſoon as I have received them. Any thing that can be imparted for general good, for keeping of poultry, or the artificial diſcoveries of hatching of chickens, will be very welcome to my hands. Mr. Vice-chancellor of *Cambridge* (Dr. *Worthington*) pleaſes me not a little by writing in his laſt. "We have "divers fellows of colleges, who have made excellent progreſſes in anatomy of ſeveral "kind of creatures, and have ſome obſervations peculiar. They have alſo much "travelled in botanics, and have got together many hundreds of plants in ſeveral "gardens here; ſome that are rare, and for which they have been ſent to from thoſe "that profeſs great knowledge. They intend to publiſh a *Phytologia* of ſuch herbs "as are within ten miles of *Cambridge*, which they have often travelled, and found "ſome not mentioned in other herbals. And for the names of herbs in the *Phyto-*"*logia Britannica*, and other herbals, they have found many errors, which have been "propagated from one book to another; and they judge it a good ſervice to reſtore "them to their own true names." Thus far of experimental learning at *Cambridge*. By the adjoining narrative of the life and death of that late incomparable univerſal ſcholar at *Hamburg*, you will oblige, it may be, divers of the *Oxford* worthies, Dr. *Ward*, Dr. *Wallis*, if not alſo your whole philoſophical club. The other paper is worthy to be taken into their ſerious conſideration; but I beg that the moſt intimate and friendly paſſages (which are only poured into my boſom) may be concealed. I have received, and almoſt diſtributed your packet with Mr. *Auſtin*'s books, and ſhall ſtudy the like real thankfulneſs. Mr. *Brereton* writes in his laſt, *January* 30,—"If "Mr. *Boyle* be come to *London*, I pray you preſent my moſt humble ſervice to him, "and let him know that I hope ſpeedily to have ſomething for him worthy his "knowledge, but as yet I have not; which is the cauſe he hath not heard from me." My ſon *Clodius* is removing this very day to another houſe in *Axe-yard*. Mr. *Stroud* is come up to *London*; my lord Protector ſent him a horſe worth 150*l*. My ſon excuſes himſelf that he cannot come at me. My lord Protector's ſpeech is ſo full of high and particular reflections, that the printing of it is denied, though the parliament has deſired the ſame. A copy of it was ſent by Mr. Secretary to the *Swediſh* miniſters here. The houſes cannot yet agree, but are in great diſorder; if they continue ſo, it is apprehended they will ſhortly be diſſolved. Juſt now my ſon comes to ſhew me Mr. *Worſley*'s laſt letter, whereof you ſhall find an extract here adjoined: by it you will ſee, more ſeconding letters of recommendation being called upon, how ſeaſonably yours will come to Mr. Secretary. Thus I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt willing faithful ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *April* 8, 58.

HOPING you are safely arrived at *Oxford*, I present these enclosed, which came yesterday to my hands without a word to myself. I beseech you, if there be any better (or worser) news concerning our common friend, or the honest business, to give me notice of it by the next return of the post. It seems you forgot to deliver those papers, or extracts out of authors, concerning an artificial way of hatching of chickens, which you more than once promised unto me. Our resident from *Zurich* writes as followeth: "Here you have what I wrote upon occasion of that of Mr. "*Beale* from *Hereford*, *Jan.* 18. I long to see that discourse concerning *English* crabs "and wild pears, and the way of ordering those despised fruits, that their juice may "be raised to excel the wines of *France*. Some parts of *Helvetia* are full of vine-"yards, yielding great store of unpleasant white-wine, or claret. In other parts of "the country the vines are killed by frosts and nipping blasts from the snowy moun-"tains. There they drink water, or whey, or milk; which makes them larger "limbed and taller than their neighbours. Many places are full of wild cherry-"trees: one sort, which is small, black and sweet, is dried and kept in great chests "in every country-house, for the use of the table, all the year. Some gather more "than their family can eat in a year, because they can distil a strong *aqua vitæ* out "of them, which they sell in the market-towns and cities. In the landgravate of "*Turgow* they make great store of perry, of a sort of very small pears, which, as I "have heard, are hard and full of very unpleasant juice, so that no man will eat one "of them raw; but some boil them, and, with I know not what cookery, make a "dish to help furnish a table. Some tell me that the *Turgow* perry is of two sorts: the "one boiled to the height of a syrup, so that it becomes almost as thick and as sweet "as honey; the other sort unboiled, and pretty clear. In other places of *Helvetia* "the boors make drink of the wildest apples, as well as of wild pears, calling them "by the name of must; perhaps because it always keeps a sweet taste, somewhat "like to that of new-pressed wine: but those boors seldom sell any of this must, "keeping it for their own palate, being content that the citizens should despise it as "drink for clowns; though some think, that now and then it proves better drink "than can be made of the best grapes in that country. Also *Glauber* hath told us, "what winy drink he hath made of hips and haws, *&c.* but I fear his chemical fer-"mentations, joined with all the experience of *Helvetia* and *Normandy*, would not be "able to make drink of crabs and wild pears, that shall deserve to be compared with "*Rhenish*, *Baccharac*, *Canary*, or *Greek* wines; which your friend seems to say he can "do, and therefore I desire to read more of his writings on that argument." Thus far Mr. *Pell*. I sent away on *Tuesday* the letter I received for Mr. *Worsley*, remaining ever,

Honoured Sir,

your most humble devoted servant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *April* 27, 1658.

I MAY truly say, even in an outward sense, "I die daily." These three days, every night I have been near unto death, so exceedingly vehement have the pains, especially of the ulcer and piles, increased upon me. For want of Mr. *Kratshmer's* medicine, I have been forced to use that which Dr. *Bonet*, out of singular love, did send my son *Clodius*, conceiving it the preparation of the *ludus*, which he doth prefer above

above all other medicines in this kind. It wrought notably upon the ſtone, and brought away divers pieces of it, with abundance of ugly gravel; but my ſon forbad the continuance at laſt, perceiving it to do hurt to the ulcer. Now he hath made Mr. *Kratſhmer*'s medicine (but not yet by his own better preparation) which I am to take to-morrow, God willing, as the moſt ſuitable found by experience as yet to all my three moſt tormenting diſeaſes. This night my poor wife roared out as much as I did; but behold, though my pains continue very ſharp, yet I am enabled to preſent my reſpects, in acknowledging the receipt of your laſt, which not before this morning was delivered unto me, being dated *April* 22. I ſee alſo the like miſcarriage has befallen the delivery of mine; which is not ſo juſt and fair for them that have the ordering of this affair, and who have been offered not long ago, to manage that office, the ſum of ſeven thouſand pounds to them. I believe really, that my lord *Broghill* was very ill when our friends came to wait upon him. Mr. *Kratſhmer* hath been ſince very ſick, and forced to keep his bed and chamber: but Mr. *Marvel* did ſend again another expreſs unto him, that his buſineſs was laid ſeriouſly to heart. Mr. *Dury* doth beſtir himſelf daily for him. Yeſterday he went to *Hackney* to ſpeak with Sir *Thomas Winor*, about the contents of his highneſs's letter for advancing of 4 or 500*l.* for the relief of the twenty families; but the poor man excuſed himſelf, that he had no money, and becauſe the other treaſurer was abſent that ſhould concur with him. The collection is begun to be made in ſeveral churches in *London*; but what farther expedient they will find out for the advance-monies I cannot tell. I will ſhew Mr. *D.* what you write in your laſt, concerning my lord *Broghill*'s concurrence. I perceive they will engage him to give intelligence of thoſe quarters of *Germany* where he lives; which will the more oblige them, as I conclude not to diſmiſs him without a good viaticum. Mr. *Kratſhmer* hath preſented a printed paper of anagrams (which I was diſſuading him to do) but you cannot believe what acceptance they have found, both with his highneſs and the whole court. For my part, I care not ſo he be holpen, with anagrams or without anagrams, and diſpatched to go in the company of the other gentleman you know of; for he begins to be almoſt impatient of the long delays. My ſon *Clodius* is well again, God be thanked. The poſtage of your letters is already paid. My ſon came to me three days ago, very much rejoicing, for obtaining, very ſtrangely and providentially, a ſecret of a very great importance, and which his deceaſed brother-in-law's ſon hath denied to Dr. *Kuffler* theſe twenty years. When his brother-in-law was a dying, he ſent for Dr. *Kuffler*, with an intention to reveal and confide it into his breaſt; but he was dead before he could come at him. How far my ſon is bound not to reveal it, I cannot ſtate the caſe; but by expreſs covenant he is bound up not to do it to Dr. *Kuffler*, who ſeems to prize it above any other thing he knows; and fancies himſelf to be made for ever, if he might but know that very ſecret, which now is fallen, as it were by the bye, into my ſon's hands. All this in very great faithfulneſs to yourſelf alone. In my former, as I remember, I ſpoke ſomething of a ſick-bed; whatever it may prove, I count it more worthy to be taken notice of, than any *French* bed of ſtate. The account which I received ſince of it runs thus: "If this, that appears in the model of Mr. *Oweſield*'s (dwelling, in the "*Strand*, near the *Savoy*) ſick bed, ſhall be found to hold in the great as well; then "I ſay, that I very well like that part, or joint, that is made to raiſe the head; for "it is done more eaſily and equally than can be done by hand, and that without "diſturbance to the ſick, without waking him, if aſleep, without ſtraining him (if "extreme weak, ſore, or wounded) to riſe and ſit up, as the manner is, whilſt they "raiſe and alter his pillows; by which means alſo, many times the ſick, being in a "ſweat,

" ſweat, takes much cold, which is this way prevented. The like device ſerves for " the like purpoſes, ſo far as is neceſſary, at the bed's feet.

" As for that contrivance at the ſide, to raiſe or let fall either ſide, I do not per- " ceive ſo much uſe thereof; for no well man can endure to lie on the ſide of a hill, " in a poſture always ready to tumble down: and if it be intended only to help him " to turn, it will badly do that, without two or three more to help, and then the " uſe (*viz.* the ſaving that charge) is loſt: and, without ſome care, one alone, ſtand- " ing on one ſide the bed, and turning the ſame ſide up, may poſſibly throw the ſick " perſon out of the bed, or againſt the bed's poſt, to his terror or hurt. But this " can do no hurt, if let alone. In the whole matter I find conſiderable eaſe and ad- " vantage to the ſick, and charge ſaved, one perſon being by this means (ordinarily) " enough to look to one, though very weak." Thus far one of my learned ſur- veyors. What the inventor will be able to alledge, in vindication of all the parts, I ſhall learn very ſhortly. I do not remember whether I have told you ought of a weatherwiſe toad, diſcovered unto me from *Zurich*, *March* 21, 58, in theſe words: " It was obſerved in the court, that *A. M.* (which I hear was *Adrian May*) was wont " to foretel the change of weather confidently and infallibly; wherefore the king " would needs know of him, what it was that enabled him to out-do all other mens " conjectures in that ſort of predictions only. He replied that he had a familiar, " which he durſt not ſhew to others, for fear they ſhould ſay it was a devil; but he " knew his majeſty would not miſtake ſo groſly, nor diſcover the myſtery to others, " that were not worthy to know it. Hereupon he led the king into an odd corner " of the garden, where, in a blind place, he had ſo ſhut up a great toad that ſhe " could not get out. Hither, ſaid he, do I come two or three times every day, to " ſee how her colours change, having long obſerved great variety in them, according " to the different alterations of the weather at hand, *&c.* And theſe are the only " aſpects that I conſider for my prognoſticks of the weather." Thus far of this pretty natural weather-glaſs. But I have written back to our learned reſident there, to reſolve me, if he can, theſe farther queries; for his relation ſeems to me ſome- what ſhort, and would be more largely explained; as 1. What thoſe colours and va- rieties of appearances were. 2. What alterations they did portend; whether rain, ſtorms of wind, change of heat and cold: all theſe, or only ſome one of them. 3. How the toad was maintained, fed, or kept alive in that cell. By ſome of the adjoined papers you will ſee what my *Hereford* philoſopher hath returned to theſe and ſome other particulars, worth your knowledge and improvement. In the extract of Mr. *Worſley*'s letter, imparted in my laſt, he ſaith, " The council retracted their for- " mer order, and made me another, in all things ſuitable to what they had promiſed, " and made me expect." (The following words which ſhould have been added, were left out.) " A copy of which I ſent to Mr. *Boyle* that week." This copy I beg from your kindneſs; for I ſuppoſe he hath ſignified this on purpoſe, not men- tioning any thing of his private condition, that I ſhould receive information and ſa- tisfaction from that order. And having reſolved, for time to come, to look upon me no more as a private friend, but as a father, it is fit I ſhould be acquainted with whatever hath, or ſhall befall this my ſon. In that letter of the 14th of *April* (which is the laſt I had from him) there are ſome other lines alſo which deſerve to be com- municated, and which then I could not tranſcribe. For he writes moreover, " For " honeſt affectionate Mr. *Potter*, I have returned an anſwer to his letter, which I " think will very well ſatisfy [I conjecture about the ſkin before the bear or P. M. " be had.] That well mentioned in *Herefordſhire* to yield bones deſerves to be more " accurately ſearched, and to try, whether thoſe bones have not ſome ſingular faculty

" in

" in broken bones like to the lapis oſteocolla of *Germany*. About the preſageous na-
" ture of ſtones, I cannot ſay any thing rare or very ſingular hath fallen within my
" obſervation at any time, and therefore I would be the more glad to hear any thing
" of it from our friends. For weather-glaſſes, to ſhew you that I have not been
" wholly idle, nor that I did ſet another a taſk harder than I would follow myſelf,
" before I came over I had ſeveral made for me, and ſeveral ways tried for the
" making both of their heads and cylinders exact and even. And I muſt, by the
" way, tell you, no man muſt expect another will ever be accurate in mechanical
" matters upon a bare direction, without we take pains, ſtand by, put to our hands,
" and help to contrive ourſelves. This I did, and had at length ſuch neat glaſſes
" made as did very much pleaſe me; the cylinders being very even, and of a con-
" venient proportion, both in their lengths and diameters, to their heads. Being
" come over hither, I had one exactly graduated into five hundred parts, and the
" length and heat were ſo proportioned, that in extremity of cold this winter, the
" water did riſe to 180. I have made many obſervations which do confirm my for-
" mer conceptions, *viz.* that to be indeed exact, doth require ſeveral glaſſes to be
" ſet in ſeveral places, and ſo conſtantly obſerved together. You will much oblige
" me by letting me ſee our friend's diſcourſe of wines, with the whole contrivances
" of them; which I beg with the very firſt." Thus far my philoſophical ſon. And having written thus far, my ſon *Hartlib* ſends me your laſt to me, dated *April* 24; which the blind poſt brought to his houſe, miſtaking *Axe-yard* for *Charing-croſs*. The letter to Mr. *Worſley* ſhall be ſent this night, encloſed in mine, who have written very largely to him. I wonder I do not hear yet of the arrival of Mr. *Wood* to *Dublin*. My ſon *Clodius* was juſt with me, bringing me ſomething of Mr. *Kratſhmer*'s phyſic, which he hath prepared, but the pipe burſting, he could ſave but a very little, promiſing to make a great quantity as ſoon as the other pipes come from *Lambeth*, which are promiſed next week. He is pretty well again, God be thanked, and ſent you another packet on *Saturday* laſt, of which I can bear witneſs. Mr. *Brereton*'s father will have him come down again; but he is now fully reſolved to marry before he go down. If he knew of my writing to you, he would certainly preſent you his unfeigned ſervice. How much Mr. *Beale* is your trueſt ſervant, you will ſee again in the adjoined papers. There is not the like man in the whole iſland, nor in the continent beyond the ſeas, ſo far as I know it; I mean, that could be made more univerſally uſe of to do good to all, as I in ſome meaſure know, and could direct. That glaſs, with whatever was in it, I did deliver very carefully to Mrs. *Dury*, according to my lady's direction: but Mrs. *D.* I remember told me at that time, that ſhe was half reſolved to come over. But hearing afterwards that ſhe could not come, ſhe ſent both it and many other packets of mine and others into *Ireland*; although I cannot hear to this day that any of them is arrived. I ſent likewiſe a large writing of Mr. *Beale*'s upon *Caſaubon*, which my lady does very much deſire to ſee, to Mr. *Worſley*, by him to be conveyed to her. But Mr. *Worſley* ſays in his laſt, of the firſt of *April*, " For thoſe papers and books you mention to have formerly ſent by Mrs. " *Dury*'s conveyance; and thoſe animadverſions of our worthy friend on *Caſaubon*'s " Enthuſiaſm, I have not as yet received any of them." But O! what a ſad and ugly note do I receive from *Zurich*, in theſe expreſſions! " This week I heard that " your count of *Hohenloe* is certainly married, and goes ordinary to maſs with his " counteſs, profeſſing himſelf an unfeigned papiſt." He that told me this, was the count's great friend heretofore. He ſays the young couple will ſpend his nothing and her portion in three years, and then they may go a begging together. Some ſay that he, by falling from *Calviniſm* for a popiſh wife, hath but followed the ſteps of his father,

who turned from *Lutheraniſm* for a *Calviniſh* wife, and thereby came to be hated by all his kindred, who were all *Lutherans*, and ſo continue. I doubt his ghoſtly father will tell him, that he is not now bound in conſcience to pay his heretical creditors. Thus far our reſident, *April* the 11th. Though I be like to loſe thirty pounds ſterling of my own, ſtanding engaged to others for fifty pounds more, yet this doth not ſo much affect; but the other part of the information is really ſuch, as doth fill continually my heart with ſpiritual horrors and ſorrows, that it is ready to burſt into tears (yea of blood, if it be poſſible) when I have occaſion either to write or to ſpeak of it. I beſeech you to oblige Monſieur *du Moulin* to gratify my lady's and mine own deſires, according to one of the papers here encloſed. Concerning the ſtory of my lord *Middleſex*, my worthy correſpondent anſwers thus: "I have requeſted my "nephew to enquire of Sir *W. Pye* the truth of the famed ſtory: he is a near neigh- "bour, kinſman, and very much reſpected by Sir *Walter*. But by the like thing, "which I heard from colonel *Harley*, as related by the ſaid lord to colonel *Harley*'s "ſiſter, I ſuſpect it will be but a drunken ſtory. It is not like to have better teſti- "mony than of drunkards." I have procured a copy of the ſame by lord *** for my lady, and am watching every opportunity to ſend them away, with ſome other books, for *Ireland*. The cavaliering party is not only to be ſecured in their perſons and horſes, but ſome of them to be tranſplanted from one county into another. Yeſterday my lord *Skippon* told my ſon *Clodius*, that the lord *Rich*, now earl of *Warwick*, was ſick unto death. There is no more ſpeech of a parliament, but believed there may be one about the beginning of *September* next. Mr. *Jeſſop* hath been very ſick, but is upon recovering. I cannot more at preſent, but remain ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful humble ſervant,

SAM. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *May* 29, 1658.

ON *Tueſday* laſt I wrote largely, though under extremity of pains. On *Thurſday* I ſent a letter from Mr. *Worſley*, with a few words of mine upon the ſuperſcription, and by your ſervant a large packet from my lord *Broghill* yeſterday morning. I had not written at this time, but that I am bound to perform an extraordinary duty towards my worthy correſpondent Mr. *Beale*, he deſiring this very favour from my hands. Your excellent ſiſter did write *April* 24, as followeth: "By this poſt I re- "ceive from my brother *Broghill* an aſſurance of his being ready to ſerve your excel- "lent *Hereford* correſpondent, and therefore pray put him to the trial, by offering "him ſome opportunity of being ſo nobly employed." And in another letter of *May* 8: "Mr. *Beale*'s promiſe of ſeveral ſheets of his I look upon as a great one, "and worthy of much more than thanks from me, who muſt confeſs to read what I "have already ſeen of his with much ſatisfaction: the Lord grant it may be alſo with "much edification; if not, I am ſure the fault is not in the matter, but in my heart. "My ſervice and acknowledgments to him, I beſeech you. I would fain know how "he is got free of his committee." But by Mr. *Beale*'s extract of a letter of *May* 21, you will ſee what opportunity he hath diſcovered that may redound to his advantage. May it therefore pleaſe you, Sir, by the firſt occaſion of writing, to preſent this caſe and opportunity to the moſt ſerious conſideration and real aſſiſtance of my lord *Broghill*, according to the adjoined paper: and though he be abſent for the preſent, yet I make no queſtion, that by an affectionate letter he may work powerfully upon my lord *Jones*. Mr. *Beale*'s caſe ſeems ſomewhat like that of *Daniel*'s, when he was caſt, without

without a cauſe, into the den of lions. But if my lord *Broghill* will but do as *Darius*, there is no doubt but he may be delivered. If you would alſo recommend the ſame perſon and caſe to Dr. *Wilkins*, he might alſo be very inſtrumental to ſecond my lord *Broghill*'s affections to my lord *Jones*, and ſome others. Mr. *Beale* hath written in his laſt very learnedly and largely of colours; which, being but begun to be tranſcribed, my amanuenſis falling ſick this afternoon, I muſt defer the ſending to another poſt. In the mean while and ever (having been tired by my wonted pains, and large letter to Mr. *Beale* by this very poſt) I reſt,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt obliged faithful ſervant,

SAM. HARTLIB.

THE electoral college hath written to the king of *Sweden*, promiſing not to proceed to the imperial election, till the *Auſtrians* and *Poland* have firſt made their peace with him. This may reflect alſo not a little upon the affairs of *C. S.* and of *Spain*. There appears as yet no poſſibility of relieving of *Dunkirk*.

Honoured SIR, *May* 13, 1658.

I HAVE not yet heard whether you received mine of *May* 4, wherein one was encloſed from the excellent lady. The 8th of *May* I wrote very largely, adjoining many conſiderable papers. I hope that both are come ſafe to your hands. Yeſterday I had another letter from Mr *Worſley*, of the 5th of *May*, of which you have the principal extract here adjoined: for in a poſtſcript he adds, "I ſhall deſire, "if you pleaſe, [but why ſhould I not pleaſe?] that a copy of this may be ſent to "Mr. *Boyle* (to whom I cannot at preſent write) that he may know how the better "to write or ſpeak to the ſaid Mr. Secretary about this buſineſs." He introduces the extract thus: "I was yeſterday exceedingly refreſhed with our friend Mr. *Beale*'s "papers, containing ſo many things ſpiritual, and worthy of obſervation, upon the "learned *Caſaubon*'s tract of Enthuſiaſm. Truly, when I read it, I found ſo ſtrong "a leaven in it, that I knew not how to give over my meditation upon it till very "late at night, intending, as this day, to write you a large anſwer of my thoughts "about it: but being, through a ſudden change and alteration in the air, taken "with a ſudden indiſpoſition, I muſt be forced to deſire your excuſe until the next "poſt; at which time, if the Lord pleaſe to afford me health, with other opportu"nities, I ſhall endeavour to give you ſome reaſonable and full ſatisfaction. And "for your large letter alſo, of the 22d of *April*, with the ſeveral ingenious papers "encloſed, I muſt be forced to reſpite my thanks for them till the next." The letter is dated not at *Dublin*, (for I believe my writers do not love to write hard names) but at *Clantarffe*; which I mention, becauſe I would fain be informed myſelf, for certain reaſons, how far that place is diſtant from *Dublin*. Yeſterday I had alſo a letter from *Youghall*, in theſe words: "Our friend from *Dublin* writes, that his pro"poſitions for learning have lain theſe two months before the council, but not yet "advanced. I now intend to write to *Broghill*, to quicken my lord deputy therein. "I have received all your packets, and in ſome of them Mr. *Auſtin* upon my lord "*Bacon*'s Natural Hiſtory. I have this week been taught a very plain medicine "againſt the piles, which the perſon that taught it me recommended upon her own "experience. Take the white part of the dung of hens, and hogs-lard, beat them "well together, and put ſome of that upon a warm ſcarlet, very warm to the place; "repeat it as there is occaſion. This may eaſily be tried, and will no leſs be bleſſed

" for its cheapneſs and meanneſs: for the Lord made the poor as well as the rich, " and provides for the one as well as the other; nay more for the poor, becauſe they " are more immediately caſt upon him for proviſion, the rich taking their own pro- " viſion upon themſelves, and ſeldom looking ſo low as the common things which " God has filled with virtue, or ſo high as his bleſſing for their cure. I juſt now " heard that Mr. *Wood* is landed, and has brought me your preſent. The letter is " dated *April* 24. In the adjoined extract, you will ſee how carefully ſhe is proſe- " cuting the obſervations relating to the deſign for regiſtering of illuſtrious provi- " dences." Thus far that great and moſt illuſtrious ſoul. I have a number of her other moſt excellent relations on this argument, but I ſpare you. I pray let not my pretty creatures be ſlighted in your *Oxonian* walks, as they are here repreſented unto you from *Hereford*. I pray you take notice of a certain tract come forth lately under the name of *Hydriotaphia: Urne-burial; or a diſcourſe of the ſepulchral urns, lately found in* Norfolk: *Together with the garden of* Cyrus; *or the Quincuncial Lozenge, or Network Plantations of the Ancients, artificially, naturally, myſtically conſidered. With ſundry obſervations. By* Thomas Browne, *doctor of phyſic*. To be had at the ſign of the gun in *Ivy-lane*. It ſeems to be no ordinary book. The loſs upon *Oſtend* is very conſiderable. Mr. *Cotton* (ſon to Sir *Thomas Cotton*) who ſtabbed himſelf, is ſince dead of his wounds. Doth not the famous library fall by this means to my lord Protector? My lord *Northumberland* preſented his highneſs this week with two moſt gallant and ſtately horſes. But the miniſter of *Petworth*, Dr. *Cheynel*, is not ſhot, as was reported; but too true that he is fallen quite diſtracted, and (if it be not miſreported) ſent to *Bedlam*. The court of juſtice have met twice in one day, and that is all that they have done as yet. Mr. *Morian* tells me from *Arnheim*, that Dr. *K.* was ſhortly to give a proof of his firework to my lord Protector: and this morning (for the doctor never or ſeldom comes more at me) Mr. *Brereton* was telling me, that he intended to be at *Woolwich* about five o'clock in the afternoon, being the time appointed by his highneſs to ſee the undertaking performed himſelf, being to be there in perſon. The foreſaid good man wiſhes, that he may not blow up a good conſcience to get riches by ſuch means. My ſon *Clodius* wrote that he would be at home as yeſterday, Mr. *Stroud* continuing very ill; but he is not come this evening for aught I know. Your five ordered favours are not yet delivered. You would pardon this piece of imprudency, if you were acquainted with the particulars of my very great ſtraits, to ſay nothing of the continual (almoſt daily) diſburſements for others, and the gratitude and juſtice of account which is due, upon all ſuch occaſions to me given, from,

Honoured Sir,

your unfeignedly faithful,

and moſt obliged ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *May* 25, 1658.

THE Lord is ſtill exerciſing your poor ſervant by his various diſpenſations in ſome doubtful way: for the horrid pains of the ulcer being ſo extremely upon me, it put my ſon *Clodius* to a great deal of fear in point of life; but ſince my laſt, the fury of my pains are very much, God be thanked, abated, and a great deal of ſtuff with thirty or forty little ſtones are come away from me, ſo that I cannot tell what the Lord means to do with me; for, as I told you once already, as ſometimes he perſuades my heart, that I ſhall not die but live to declare his works, ſo always he doth temper

temper my will with a great deal of chearfulneſs to be ſubmiſſive to his pleaſure, whatever it ſhall be, for life or for death. There is a *German* at *London*, who will not be known by any name, but counted a ſecret (I mean Cainitical) philoſopher, now going for *France*, who is ſaid to have a moſt admirable medicine for curing of ulcers in the bladder, or any other part, moſt perfectly: but I am afraid he is over-run with a worſe kind of ulcer than myſelf, being obſtinately reſolved never to impart this ſecret. Whether he can be prevailed withal upon any reaſonable terms to part with the medicine, I cannot yet determine. He letting fall ſome words that the medicine was made out of minerals, my ſon *Clodius* begins to conceit, that it may perhaps be that very medicine of mercury which he is now preparing for me. He is aſtoniſhed at the operations of the other medicine in me againſt the ſtone, and confeſſes never to have ſeen the like; conceiting withal, that I may yet be a healthier creature than I have been all the days of my life, when all the tartarious matter ſhall be thus purged out of my body. But theſe are mainly to acknowledge your ſingular condoling affections in your laſt of *May* 22. *Caneparius*'s book cannot be in a better cuſtody than my own, and I ſhall not fail, God willing, to give notice of it to Mr. *Worſley* himſelf. My ſon *Clodius* is reading of it for the preſent, commending it in many reſpects. The ſame author hath written another book, which is as it were a whole body of philoſophy, as Mr. *Kratſhmer* told me: but if I hear of more, I ſhall give notice of it. D. *K.* comes never at me; but I hear my lord Protector is reconciled again, and hath promiſed to be preſent at another proof, which he is to make again either this or next week. Mr. *Kratſhmer* is at *Stratford Bow*; and when I ſee him, I ſhall aſk him what paſſages he moſt approves in the deſigned treatiſe *De Atramentis*. My ſon commends very much young *Kuffler* unto me, as a very inventive wit. He doth now make exactly the ſtopples of glaſs, to ſtop bottles withal inſtead of corks; which I ſuppoſe may prove a very ſpecial kind of accommodation for preſerving of wine, ale, and all other kind of liquors. My ſon *Clodius* hath alſo received a letter from Sir *K. Digby*, with many obſervable things in it. He tells me that Sir. *K.* hath alſo publiſhed of late the treatiſe of the ſympathetical powder; and, if I be not miſtaken, that he hath gotten, or is ſhortly to get a copy of it. The adjoined copy of Mr. *Worſley*'s letter ſeems to have many regular things in it. And I am glad I have gotten a letter again from Dr. *Horne* with thoſe pretty obſervations, occaſioned by my communications of *Martindale*'s new carriages or coaches. The doctor hath alſo ſent me a ſcheme or picture of new invented coaches, which have been in uſe at *Leyden* for ſome years, but only for pleaſure. But *Martindale*'s motion, the like never as yet hath been practiſed, will be not only for recreations, but likewiſe for real profit and accommodations in many reſpects. Juſt now I have given an acquittance upon the receipt of your five favours, to Mr. *Thomas Alſteyn*, which put a new obligation upon me to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Honoured Sir,

your ever faithful, and
moſt obliged ſervant,
SAM. HARTLIB.

SIR *H. Slingſby* was only this day tried before the high court of juſtice, and my lord *Falconbridge* is gone with a very magnificent train to the king of *France* at *Mardyke*.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *June* 1, 1658.

HAVING written largely on *Tuesday* last, and having sent some other letters on *Thursday*, *Friday* by your man and *Saturday* by the posts, these are only to signify, that I had none from your hands by the post that arrived yesterday. My son *Hartlib* has had a very large conference with Mr. Secretary about the business of learning; and finding him full of frivolous suspicions and allegations, he hath notably pleaded for the justice of that affair, and doth not mean to give it over, till he be convinced into better resolutions. To this purpose he hath referred him to Mr. *Jessop* (who is a very great and real friend to that design) that he may receive satisfaction to any of his pretended scruples, though they be such that my son can discern the weakness of them, to speak the best of them. Yesterday the Secretary went to confer with my lord *Fleetwood* about it; but he will not be able to cope with his cunning subtilities. But not a word of all this to any other. By the enclosed you will see what Mr. *Worsley* hath written to Mr. *Dury*. To me he writes as followeth: "Your last hath confirmed me in that, which I had only before a probable but "grounded guess of, *viz.* that upon other pretences the doctor had a mind to divert "that revenue from both those persons, and those upright, honest, and sincere aims, "for which it was intended; and under the notion of the state's care, to put him-"self into the management of it. But if this revenue may not be managed entirely "amongst ourselves, who understand the aims, hearts, lives, principles, and spirits, "one of another, I mean Mr. *Boyle*, yours, Mr. *Dury*, Mr. *Sadler*, myself, or Mr. "*Beale*, (whose piety, integrity, and worth, I have a confidence of) it shall never "be raised to serve the outward glory or lust of another man. If the state have a "mind to set up such an institution, let them do it of their own, and dispose it to their "own ministers. If other men are willing to lay a foundation of so much good, "let not the state hinder them by interposing amongst them: for in these things "every man is free, neither can any man be obliged, but according to his own plea-"sure and through his own satisfaction. But if the state have a mind to try or com-"pare themselves with the donors, let them give us but a small revenue, and leave "it to us. Let them take a greater, and let the emulation of doing most good, and "being most faithful to the public, grow between them and us: and consider, who "can lose by such an honest strife as this is. And let this be propounded as an expe-"dient between us, all which I shall desire you to communicate both to Mr. *B.* and "Mr. *D.* And for as much as Mr. *D.* may have an opportunity to speak with my "lord Protector, my lord *Fleetwood*, and others about it, as also with Mr. Secretary "himself, I have given the trouble of a few lines in it, that as you have well hinted, "there may be a joint harmony and concurrence of opinion and judgment between "you, when you shall either of you speak with him or any other about it. But if "this should be crossed, I shall then expect and truly be in hope of some thing else "(which perhaps I have some discernings and conjectures) that the Lord will raise, "wherein no man shall have any glory to take to himself, nor any power or subtilty "given him to hinder it; and which particular I think plainly to be very possible. "But this, as also his whole work to be brought forth in his own time, and by his "own means, is to be left to the Lord." The letter is dated *May* 26. But what is that something else, which the discerning man is in expectation of? Can you, Sir, resolve it out of your former letters? I had by this very post a letter also from Mr. *Wood*; and though I thought I had so fully engaged both his honesty and interest to help to dispatch this business, yet now he writes: "For the business of advancement "of learning, I shall wholly refer you to Mr. Secretary, who can much more exactly

"inform

" inform you of the true ſtate thereof than I write, had I never ſo much leiſure." Really I had expected a more generous anſwer from Mr. *Wood*. Sir *Robert Honeywood*, lately arrived out of the *Low Countries*, tells of a ſingular invention found out there, of a clock that goes moſt exactly true without a balance, which needs not to be wound up but once in eight days, the price of it being 7*l.* ſterling. Mr. *Palmer*, who hath a ſhop as it were of all manner of inventions, is to have one ſhortly: and *Fromantile* having heard of it, gives out confidently, that he is able to make the like, or rather to exceed it. I am wonderfully troubled at Mr. *Brereton*'s deſerted condition. I fear the next news you will hear, will be that he is in priſon, there being four judgments out againſt him. I ſuppoſe you have heard of the launching of the gallant ſhip laſt week, which was called the *Richard*. There had like a very ſad thing here fallen out at that time; the wildneſs of the horſes running away with my lord *Richard*'s coach, and breaking it altogether into pieces. My lord Protector was in it with major *Beake* and Mr. *Pierpoint*, as I take it, but none had any hurt, God be praiſed, but major *Beake*, who received ſome wounds. I am perſuaded the good angels had a ſpecial care of my lord Protector. The approaches are come to the walls of *Dunkirk*, whither my lord *Barrimore* and Mr. *Henry Laurence* are gone with a great number of other *Engliſh* gallants, as likewiſe out of *France*, to ſee the ſiege of that neſt or den of pirates. And though the chief witneſs againſt Dr. *Hewet* be eſcaped, yet there are ſo many other evidences againſt him, that it will go very hard with him. Thus preſenting you the promiſed learned papers, which could not be ſent on *Saturday* laſt, I reſt,

Honoured Sir,

your ever faithful obliged ſervant,

SAM. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR,

I AM ſo out of love with my tormenting pains, that I have never a good will to mention them, but when they may be an occaſion of uſhering in ſome good communication or other, for the eaſe and health of many. This made me ſilent in my laſt, to complain of my wonted pains. But having gotten ſome new diſcovery from our common friend at *Dublin*, I can pardon myſelf if I continue to ſay, that my body is ſtill full of pains, though not ſo violent, God be praiſed, as heretofore, I voiding ſtill abundance of little ſtones and gravel. But the diſcovery is preſented in theſe words: " Near *Lambeth*, or at the farther end of it is a houſe, where they make " braſs of copper and lapis calaminaris; the pots of which metal do, in the melting, " ſend forth ſtore of white flowers, or flores: theſe are without any thing of corro- " ſiveneſs, and a moſt precious medicine for your ulcer, if the Lord pleaſe to ſucceed " it, and that you can apply them." Thus far the diſcovery, which I muſt confeſs I like far better than thoſe ſalivations you were pleaſed to ſpeak of in your former. I received your civilities on Mr. *Beale*'s behalf, who wrote, before I got that letter, as followeth: " I ever pray for the right honourable lady; ſhe pleads for favour and " countenance towards me; I cry out for common juſtice, that our enemies may not " glory in our injuſtice againſt ourſelves. Without vanity I may ſay it, that I think " I am the only man that has ſo perſonally and cordially ſerved, and by my education " fitted to be ſerviceable, with ſome credit, in many relations, in moſt of the chief " parts of *England*; and yet, that am ſo caſt off from favour, juſtice, or common " mercy. But I thank God, who hath given me a heart above theſe things; and I " think I ſee his providence in it, that, to puniſh my old pride, in the very flaſhes of

" falſe

"falſe learning, he hath now placed me under the feet of them that hate and abhor "holy induſtry and true learning. If I could diſcern my preſent guilt, I hope I "ſhould rather endeavour to reform myſelf, than be willing to dwell in this furnace. "Here I am ſick of a parochial labyrinth. But *thy will be done in earth as it is in* "*heaven*. The holy angels, at thy command, muſt wait upon us poor mortals; and "what am I, ſinful wretch, that I ſhould diſdain, at thy pleaſure, to lie under the "feet of the worſt of mankind!" The letter is dated *May* 27. Thus I was going to have anſwered to the other paſſages of your laſt of *June* 5, but that Mr. *Brereton*, Mr. *Dury*, and Mr. *Hack*, have taken ſome hours from me in relating and repeating, or collating, the particulars of the great news, as they have been brought by ſeveral meſſengers, which will alſo be printed againſt *Thurſday* next. The ſum of all is, that the whole *Spaniſh* army, coming to raiſe the ſiege of *Dunkirk*, is totally routed, and the foot wholly overthrown: ſome thouſands taken priſoners and ſlain: very few on the *Engliſh* or *French* ſide. The marſhal *Hocquincourt*, that lately delivered *Heſdin*, killed; P. *de Condé* taken, but let go again; the general *Caracene* taken, with a number of other grandees. Some of the *Stuarts* were preſent in the battle: but the courage of the *Engliſh* ſoldiers was moſt inſtrumental in the victory; inſomuch, that marſhal *Turenne* gives an account to the king in no other words, but that the *Engliſh* had carried themſelves above men. We now do expect to hear daily of the taking or ſurrender of that piratical den of thieves. The court of *France* hath taken ſo kindly the viſit of his highneſs, in his ſon-in-law the lord *Falconbridge*, that they are reſolved to ſend no leſs than four ambaſſadors to requite the ſame civility; one from the king, another from the queen, the third from their brother the duke of *Anjou*, and the laſt from *Mazarin*. My lord *Falconbridge* is returned, and cannot ſufficiently expreſs the great reſpect and entertainments he hath found at that court: but he could not prevail with his highneſs here for a longer reprieve of his uncle, Sir *H. Slingſby*, who was beheaded this day upon *Tower-hill* (with Dr. *Hewet*) which was all the favour ſhewn them, who were ſentenced by the high court of juſtice to be hanged, drawn and quartered. They offered, when it was too late, confeſſing their own guilt, to diſcover the bottom of the whole plot. Laſt *Friday* his highneſs and council, apprehending no ſmall danger, even unto *England*, in caſe the foreſaid ſiege ſhould be raiſed by the reſolved formidable *Spaniſh* army, kept a private faſt; and on *Saturday* night they had a return of their prayers, which hath filled *Whitehall* (and more places alſo) with triumphant joys. The imperial election, if it be not paſt before this time, will be farther off than ever. Mr. *Brereton*'s father hath at laſt condeſcended to ſupply him with three hundred pounds, being fallen very ſick. Thus I am conſtrained to haſten and to conclude, but remain profeſſedly ever,

Honoured Sir,

your truly faithful and aſſured ſervant.

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Auguſt* 10, 58.

I HOPE you are ſafely arrived at *Oxford*. Theſe two or three days my pains have been very much decreaſed, God be praiſed: but Dr. *Petty* hath taken away above two hours from me, which ſhould have been devoted to your ſervice. The doctor ſeemed mightily to be ſurpriſed, when he underſtood you were gone out of town, with ſome kind of jealous intimations, becauſe I did not direct him to your lodging: but I anſwered, that, when that queſtion was made unto me, I really did not know

your

your lodging. I had lately received a letter from Mr. *Oldenburg*, amongſt other particulars, in theſe words: "In our paſſing through *Mentz* we met with a rare artiſt "called *Beckor*, a young man, who hath found, he ſaith, the perpetual motion, the "poſſibility whereof hath been hitherto ſo much diſputed by philoſophers. He hath "almoſt finiſhed a work, wherein he doth demonſtrate his invention, which we have "ſeen, and the deſign and way whereof the maſter told me himſelf, he would within "a very few weeks, put in print here at *Francfort*; which being done I ſhall ſend "you a copy of it. I am told here, that Dr. *Petty* hath a commodious way of "printing, called *inſtrumentum Pettii*, very convenient to carry about, and to print "in travelling ſome few ſheets of paper, if occaſion preſent itſelf. If you have or "know it, I intreat you to communicate it unto me *July* 18, 58" The doctor laughed at the invention of the perpetual motion, and denied to have any ſuch inſtrument of commodious printing. Moſt of the time was ſpent in telling the contrivance of his great deſign, upon which he was reſolved to ſpend two thouſand pounds, not doubting but that he would be a good gainer in the concluſion of it. The deſign aims at the founding of a college or colony of twenty able learned men, very good *Latiniſts*, of ſeveral nations, that ſhould teach the *Latin* tongue (as other vulgar languages are learnt) merely by uſe and cuſtom. This, with the hiſtory of trades, he looks upon as the great pillars of reformation of the world. I wiſh you could handſomely preſent unto him, how he hath defeated me of two hundred and fifty pounds a year (for which I have to ſhew ſome of the donors own hands) by undermining that more univerſal deſign of learning, upon which I have been made to hope theſe two years. Mr. *Brereton* writes, "My ague hath almoſt left me (thanks "be to God) and my ſtrength begins to return, though ſlowly." The letter is dated *Aug.* 7. No poſts this week out of *Ireland*; but ſome unexpected lines from Mr. *Pell*, in theſe words: "I pray you give ſpeedy notice to Mr. *Moreland* that I am here. "There was once a reſolution of ſending a ſhip for me: I fear I ſhall not here find a "fit ſhip before one may be ſent hither." *Fluſhing* in *Zealand*, *Aug.* $\frac{3}{13}$. The vice-chancellor of *Cambridge* was with me laſt week, entreating me to ſound him, whether he would be willing to lay the foundation of a mathematical profeſſorſhip in that univerſity. If I find him to be, the univerſity is as good as reſolved to petition his highneſs about him, as ſoon as he is arrived. My lord *Montague* ſent orders yeſternight for a ſhip to fetch him from *Fluſhing*. Doctor *Kuffler* was with me on *Monday*, telling in what words you had congratulated the ſucceſs of his terrible deſtroying invention. He thinks it not fit to preſent himſelf to his highneſs, till the funeral of my lady *Claypole* be over. Her corpſe was to be brought as this day by water from *Hampton-court*. My ſon *Clodius* promiſed to write by this poſt. I would fain have the particulars from your own relation, which you were pleaſed to tell him of divers curious inventions, ſhewn you lately by a certain *Walloon*. Here you have, beſides the promiſed papers of the glaſs ſtopples, a notable anſwer from *Hereford* to Mr. *Worſley*'s olfactiques, which I imparted unto you at *Marſton*. Mr. *Beale* writes in his laſt, "We had here, "about eleven of the clock on *Wedneſday* night, one great crack of thunder, that "hath turned all the beer and ale of this neighbourhood into giddineſs. I did not "think that ſo much hurt could be done to drink by ſuch a ſhort crack. Can any "ſtopples preſerve the liquor from this annoyance?" Thus far he. This day Mrs. *Dury* with her huſband went from hence to conduct Mrs. *Worſley* to *Cheſter*; from whence they intend to give a viſit to Sir *Richard Saltonſtall* at *Wrexham*. Within three weeks, God willing, they hope to be back at *London*. I remain ever,

Honoured Sir,

your faithful ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Sept.* 14, 1658.

MY laſt was on *Tueſday*; I forgot then to add one of the beſt remedies that my ſon *Clodius* knows againſt the Eryſipelas, which I tranſmitted to Mr. *Beale* in theſe words: *Cape Rob. baccarum ſambuci & ejus unciam unam in aquæ florum ſambuci unciis ſex diſſolve, & hac mixtura aſſumta tegatur æger ſtragulis, quam diligentiſſime, ut largiter ſudet. Hoc ſecunda quoque & tertia repetatur vice, ſi prima non cedat malum.*

THUS far I began to expreſs my reſpects laſt *Thurſday*, but was forbidden to proceed by the extremity of moſt violent torments, which caſt me into my bed as into a grave: and though I be riſen this day again, yet I conflict with inexpreſſible torments, and which will ſuffer me only to ſignify the receipt of your laſt of the 11th of *September*; nor is there much to anſwer to the contents thereof: only I am mightily tormented alſo at the loſs of your excellent meditations (of the Uſefulneſs of Natural Philoſophy) which will now be more ſeaſonable than ever, for that I ſuppoſe that his highneſs, that now is, will perhaps more favour deſigns of ſuch a nature than his deceaſed father, otherwiſe of very glorious memory. I have received the *Maſcon* books, and do return you my moſt humble thanks for them. I ſhould be glad to hear your account of Mr. *Beale*'s papers, concerning cyder as a winy liquor: but I believe Mr. *Auſtin* did not impart unto you a copy of his own letter, as his judgment upon them, which I have done here by ſome of the adjoined papers. But you need not to let him know any thing of the exerciſe of this my well-meant charity. My ſon *Clodius* is under new trials, his wife being brought to bed this night of a child that died ſoon after, the mother remaining very weak. He wrote to you laſt *Saturday*. His chemical college or laboratory will not be ſo much proſtituted as you fear; but there was an abſolute neceſſity to reſolve upon ſuch a courſe amongſt a few confiding friends. There are near three furnaces finiſhed, but five more muſt be added unto them; and having theſe, they ſhall be able to command any kind of operation whatſoever. I know not how he will be able to diſpoſe of his buſineſs, ſo as to give you now a viſit at *Oxford*: but I ſuppoſe that ſome occaſion or other, in theſe changes of public affairs, may invite you to *London* ſooner, it may be, than you had reſolved. If you come, if the Lord ſpare my life, we ſhall be able to ſpeak more freely about thoſe ſecret papers and paſſages by me imparted. My lord *Broghill* is written unto from *Whitehall*, to come away with all poſſible expedition: but my lord deputy of *Ireland* I hear is not now likely to come, being to look the better to the publiſhing of the new ſucceſſion. I do not remember to have told you of the like charitable deſign to be founded at *Durham*; I mean of a charitable phyſician or laboratory for the poor. I have but one copy of it in print, being only diſperſed by private communications: but yeſterday I received a letter, wherein I am promiſed to have ſhortly more copies. As for my ſon's charitable deſign, though the reaſons which are alledged againſt it ſeem to be weighty, yet thoſe other conſiderations, which the propoſer can ſhew for it, are not to be ſlighted. When you meet, God willing, they may both be laid into juſt balances. The more particular account of Mr. *Stahl*'s way of ſtudy, and of his opinions, will be fitter for a diſcourſe than writing. Mr. *Brereton* reſolves to be in *London* about the 25th of this month. He writes ſadly. "A ſhip was caſt away about three weeks "ſince, going for *Ireland*, about four leagues off *Holyhead*. They ſay here it was by "a ſpout, or falling of a cloud, and that divers perſons of quality (others ſay ſixty "in number) were there loſt: not one man, and but two dogs (one whereof upon a "plank) were ſaved." The letter is dated *Septemler* 11. I hear nothing yet of the arrival of Mr. *Worſley*, nor of Sir *George Wentworth* our neighbour, who they ſay was in it, with all his famil, excepting his eldeſt daughter, who could not be perſuaded to

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go into *Ireland*. I hope it is not true; but thus much is certain, that he carried two dogs along with him. There is also a secret whisper, as if my lord *Bradshaw* was departed this world in *Cheshire*; which, if true, is one of the saddest and most piercing news that can befal,

Honoured Sir,

your faithfully devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

I HAVE not time to read over what I have written.

Honoured SIR, *December* 16, 1658.

HAVING written last week two letters, and sent also a great packet of letters from *Ireland*, I did not write on *Tuesday*, not hearing of the receipt of any of them: but yesterday I received the acknowledgment in your last of *December* 14, with the three books of Dr. *Willis*'s fermentation, for which I would have you returned, not only my humble thanks, but likewise those books, which I have enquired after in *Paul*'s *Church-yard*, if I could have gotten them. I am wondrous glad that you have written of the present Protector's intentions for countenancing and advancing of universal useful learning in due time. I had, by the last post out of *Germany*, in my learned letters, some passages of special importance tending that way: I mean about the care of magistrates, for ordering and improving of learning; and a purpose for drawing up a solid and handsome discourse, for a standing council of learning, how it may be rightly constituted to work out, without any noise and disturbance, a real reformation and advancement in all manner of literature. I shall now stir up the gentleman to elaborate such a discourse, he being of vast and excellent parts; and, if I should tell his name, perhaps not unknown to Dr. *Wilkins*, when he travelled beyond the seas. My humble and faithful service to the doctor, who stands so nearly related to his highness, letting him know, that I hope to see him not only made provost of *Eton* college, (though my lord president hath obtained the grant of it from his late highness, after the decease of my lord *Rous*) but likewise president of the forementioned standing council of universal learning. I hope likewise, that the Lord will make your worthy self eminently instrumental for carrying on that design, upon that, or any other the like favourable either public or private occasions. Mr. *Dury* told me on *Monday* last, how that captain *Shaine* would have shortly a meeting of Mr. *D.* Dr. *Petty*, and himself, at my new house, to contrive and determine the way of promoting this very business as to the hopefulness from *Ireland*, the adventurers being bound, by the act of parliament, to allow and set out the sum of ten thousand pounds for schooling and learning in that country; of which I shall not fail to give you a farther account in due time. But *Anthony Pearson*, the Quaker, is gone away per post last *Saturday*, not having performed his promises towards me. I am sending to *Calvert* the stationer, to enquire whether he have left any papers of husbandry with him for me, or promises to send them up with enlargements, of which he spoke likewise unto me. As soon as I have heard one way or other from him, you shall be sure to be acquainted with it. In the mean time, I beg the communication of the promised great mystery of husbandry, if you become master of it. I shall carry myself, in the concealing or spreading of it, as you shall please to prescribe. My chemical son's head and hands are much taken up with animadversions on Dr. *Willis*'s book, he having very great and clear reason and experiences to dislike very many particulars in it: but, no doubt, of this he will write himself. I shall carefully send the books to Mr. *B.* and Mr. *Worsley*. But I shall impart, what he so triumphantly and confidently

writes to a confiding friend of his in these words: "My dear friend, raise up your-
"self, be chearful, comfort yourself indeed, and comfort all our friends in the faith
"and expectation they have of the glory to be revealed, and of the faithfulness of
"the making good the rich promises of God to his people, even forthwith. For,
"believe me, and believe also I would not knowingly abuse you; and if you may
"receive any thing certain from me, then I can, I dare, I do assure you, I have
"seen, or heard, or been informed of that, yea so much of that glory now to be re-
"vealed, as I am not in fancy, not in imagination, but in sobriety and judgment,
"well assured, that when the Lord shall really usher it into the world, (and that he may
"do, for any thing I know, in a few, it may be very few months) all the force that can
"be made in the world will not be able to resist it: but it shall root, and it shall pre-
"vail, until darkness be wholly tumbled down, and confusion itself shall be wholly
"confounded and brought to nothing. And believe it, my true friend, this word
"is certain: for that must of necessity work powerfully and strongly, that hath the
"counsel and decrees of God to go along with it. And there is not the least part of
"that faith and hope I now declare to you, that is built upon man, but upon God;
"and upon the certain counsel, wisdom, and faithfulness of him, who perhaps will,
"before we are aware, cut his work short, and will put an end to all gainsayers."
The letter is dated *Nov.* 20, 1658. But of his *Tractatus Tractatuum* I cannot learn as yet any thing. My humble thanks for your continued care to Mr. *Haughton* on my behalf. Yesterday the writs (upon new considerations) of parliament were sent by a messenger into *Ireland*. Some fear there is of a breach between us and *France*; but my lord *Lockhart* is hastening thither. Mr. *Dury* is fallen very ill. Mr. *Needham* told my son that my lord *Broghill* was at *London*; but upon sending thither there was no such matter.

ONE of his highness's daughters died lately in the country.

N. B. By this very post I have sent a big packet with letters from *Ireland*.

Honoured SIR, *April* 5, 1659.

YESTERDAY I received some part of your answers to my several letters, which were very welcome, but that I am extremely troubled at the ground of hindrance, that would not suffer you to enlarge yours upon the other particulars. My son's maid fell sick last week of an ague; but by God's blessing upon the use of that powder, which he got from his new acquaintance, she is in a very hopeful way of a perfect recovery. No doubt himself will write concerning salt cornu cervi, or that other medicine; at least I have done my duty in obeying your commands. When these holydays are over, I shall cause very diligently to acquaint myself about *Mary Rant* and her writings; for I have not only now, but very often, been importuned heretofore in her behalf. Dr. *Horne* owes me a large answer to a letter accompanied with many communications; so that I do not intend to write to him again, till he hath given me an account of them. Both *Vossius* and *Horne* are two notable learned men, so that we may justly expect some extraordinary performances in their extraordinary undertakings or encounters. I beseech you to favour me with the first notice, when those so much desired chronological labours of the late worthy bishop of *Armagh* are come out of the press, that I may send a copy of them to the learned doctor at *Leyden*. I shall endeavour to inform myself the best I can, concerning the way of making saltpetre out of sea salt. I wonder that Mr. *Worsley*, that was one so hot upon this subject, both for writing and acting, hath been so much cooled in both respects. I wonder also not a little at his perverse and obstinate

silence.

ſilence. Mr. *Wood* gives no other account, but " Dr. *Worſley* is not yet returned out " of the country, but is well there for ought I can hear." Thus far he, the letter being dated *March* 21. Concerning the inſtrument of catching and condenſing the ſun-beams, I have a promiſe of a large account from Mr. *Morian*. But whether he ſhall get leave to reveal the way, which the adeptus who is with him doth uſe in the philoſophical work, he cannot yet aſſure me of. The anſwer of Mr. *Pocock* to the *Turkiſh* queries (which are very ſeriouſly made) will be very acceptable, if it can be procured. I thank you heartily for the printed paper of coffee, which will be guſtful, no doubt, to your coffee drinkers; and who, perhaps, may add as many more good obſervations from their own experience, as the *Arabian* phyſician hath done. Is the philoſophical figment under the preſs? Dr. *Worthington* told me huge commendations of it. I ſhall not be unmindful of your commands to Mr. *Oldenburg*. In my laſt on *Saturday* I ſhould have added the following lines, wherein he has anſwered to ſome of my former deſires: " At preſent I have nothing elſe to ſend you, than what " I promiſed to ſome of my former, *viz.* Mr. *Becker*'s Argonautick invention, which, " if practicable as well at ſea as in a model, would certainly excel moſt inventions " that ever were deviſed. There are many conſiderable things in it, which if " he be able to put in practice (as in the end he ſaith he hath done heretofore al- " ready, blaming withal that famous and raſh undertaker at *Rotterdam*) he were wor- " thy to be crowned. In the interim, ſuch kind of men ſhould be ſome long time " converſed with, and ſome expences hazarded by liberal entertainments, to get their " familiarity and affection; after which they will more eaſily be induced to diſcover " themſelves and the depth of their knowledge." The queſtions which he propoſes to me are theſe: I pray give yours the trouble to aſk, whether the book called *Vulgar Errors* of Dr. *Brown* be tranſlated into *French* or *Latin*, or any other language, and acquaint me with it by the next. Laſtly, he adds a word or two concerning the *French* public affairs. Here is a ſtrong rumour of a peace between *France* and *Spain*, though I think it nothing but a trick of policy, for to daſh the plottings of diſcontented people here, and to give them hopes of that quiet, which they deſire after ſo long and exhauſting a war as this hath been. Of our parliament public affairs I have no mind to write. The debates for ſome days have been only about the act of a ſolemn faſt, that it may be publiſhed in the name of his highneſs and the parliament, but not of both houſes of parliament; for there are new debates riſen about not tranſacting with the other houſe of parliament, till their bounds be firſt ſtated and determined. The army is coming to deliver their petition about indemnity. Juſt now my ſon *Clodius* ſends the encloſed. When he was with me this afternoon, he was admiring the great ſtones that were come away this night from me; but though I remain ſtill in woful torments, yet I muſt ſubſcribe myſelf ever,

Honoured Sir,

your entirely devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

SIR, the Argonautic invention cannot be written out, but muſt be deferred till the next occaſion.

Honoured

Honoured Sir, *April* 12, 1659.

THESE are to return my humble thanks for your laſt, having no date, but I ſuppoſe written on *Saturday* laſt. I did not write ſince my laſt of *April* 5, having very much overloaden you as I feared, and being very deſirous to have an anſwer to divers particulars in thoſe learned communications, which now alſo for the moſt part you have given. As for Mr. *Pocock*, I dare not reiterate my former requeſt, leſt it may prove, as you alledge, a prejudice to better and greater occaſions. Here you have ſome extracts more of Mr. *Beale*'s on the optical argument. He will be very glad to hear, that the ingenious gentleman of *Greſham* college is engaged by you to make particular enquiries into that ſubject (which I ſhall carefully certify our *Herefordian* friend;) but I ſhould be more glad, if you could obtain copies of what he ſhall deliver (concerning the commendation and perfection of teleſcopes) in his public lectures. At *Copenhagen*, the former king had impoſed the printing of all the profeſſors lectures in that univerſity. I am heartily glad that your ague deals ſo civilly with you; but you don't tell, whether my ſon *Clodius* has ſent you ſome doſes of his new adeptus's powder, as I earneſtly begged of him. Our maid is perfectly cured, by God's bleſſing, upon the uſe of that medicine. The packet with books, which I have ſo long expected out of *Holland*, hath been twice at ſea, as I was advertiſed the laſt week; and that it was now again on the way the third time. As ſoon as it is arrived, you ſhall preſently have all your deſires. Laſt *Friday* I did write to Dr. *Horne*, about the experiment of making ſaltpetre out of ſea water. Mr. *Beale* has been pleaſed to ſend me his ſuggeſtions for Dr. *Horne* in dealing with *Voſſius*'s new chronology. By the next occaſion (if my torments put it not out of my mind) you ſhall have a tranſcript of it. In the mean while here I preſent you with the promiſed Argonautic invention of that *Becker*, with whom Mr. *Oldenburg* is come acquainted in his travels: but I am ſorry the *Latinity* of it is ſo imperfect and mechanic. The foreſaid gentleman writes in his very laſt as followeth: "I have had ſome diſcourſe with an able but ſomewhat cloſe "phyſician here that ſpoke to me of a way, though without particulariſing all, to "draw a liquor of the beams of the ſun, which peradventure ſome perſon, that is "knowing and experienced (as noble Mr. *Boyle*) may better beat out than we can, "who want experience in theſe matters. The proceſs, as far as I could underſtand "him, is this. You muſt put a couple of pounds of good mercury into an alembic, "luting the head thereof as well as is poſſible, to the end that nothing exhale, and "expoſe the ſaid alembic into the ſun againſt a wall of reverberation in the hotteſt "time of the year; upon which the ſaid mercury would after ſome time draw the "celeſtial ſpirit, and coagulate it into a yellowiſh liquor, that would be a conſiderable "diſſolvent. So much he ſpoke in groſs, which I pray communicate with Mr. *Boyle*. "At the firſt I would not have it go farther than to Mr. *Boyle*, and according as he "ſhall judge of it we may proceed farther." Thus far the very formalia of his letter. Alas! good gentleman! *Pauperis eſt numerare pecus*. I ſhall be able ere long to communicate other kind of proceſſes on that argument. I long to ſee your ſecret of univerſal (as I take it) huſbandry. Dr. *Kuffler* is moſt confident of his ſecret for improving of ſandy or any other barren land. He is ſo much in love with it, in reſpect of the promiſing, or rather certain gain, that will moſt abundantly redound to him, that if he could get any partners, or any other encouragement or aſſiſtant for it, he would willingly deſiſt from all eager purſuits about his dreadful and deſtroying invention. I humbly beg that you would not leave him, till he have diſcovered that ſecret of huſbandry, at leaſt into your boſom. He is very poſitive that many thouſands may be gained by it. He ſays the means are altogether natural, being a very ſlight thing,

thing, and that it is continually obvious to every body, but yet obſerved or improved by no body. I ſhall not fail to be mindful of your commiſſion to Mr. *Lymner*, by the next occaſion I write unto *Ireland*. I alſo purpoſe to look out thoſe papers (as ſoon as the extremity of my torments will give leave) which have anſwered my interrogatories for *Ireland*, in reference to barnacles. I pray be pleaſed ſo to mind that excellent little treatiſe you mention, of the propagation of all ſorts of plants, that I may have the firſt notice of it, before it be flown abroad. If you have a mind (ſays my ingenious correſpondent) to oblige Mr. *Pitt* and Sir *Thomas Hanmer* of *Flintſhire*, and Mr. *Rea* of *Shropſhire*, all three exquiſite floriſts, and Mr. *Rea* ſhortly to furniſh the preſs with a treatiſe of note on that argument, you may " with the ſame arrow hit " the mark to all three." And again, " For though Mr. *Pitt* ſends me his rarities " of ſeeds and plants, yet I fail not to gratify him. Mr. *Rea* brought up his hortu- " lan labours to *London*. It required many coſtly cuts, which ſo affrighted the Sta- " tioners, that they offered him but thirty pounds for his pains. This diſpleaſed him " ſo much, that he brought home his manuſcripts. I told Mr. *Pitt* that I had no " vote for any man, that demanded a patent or price for his merit towards the pub- " lic." I ſuppoſe you have ſeen the petition of the army, which is no ways liked. But they are more reſolved and daring in their meetings, conſultations, and orders, which cannot be hindred. But clouds begin to gather apace, and the chiefeſt amongſt them have no other apprehenſions, but that it muſt come again to blood. My lord *Craven* is permitted to come over. I had forgot to ſignify, that Dr. *K.* deſires earneſtly my lord *Broghill*'s protection, under the notion of being phyſician to his family; for he ſays that ſuch protections are, during parliaments, ordinary and precedential; which, if it may be obtained in time, will be a huge benefit unto him: for now he dares not go upon the ſtreets to follow his buſineſs, for fear of being arreſted; but ſuch a protection would ſave him from all his creditors for a time, in which he hopes he may be put into a better condition. I ſhall not fail to ſpeak to your truly compaſſionate and noble ſiſter, begging your ſeconds, as remaining ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithfully devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Axe-yard, April* 16, 1659.

I WROTE largely on *Tueſday* laſt: ſince I have been moſt grievouſly tormented, both days and nights. I had many things to enlarge upon, but the pains are ſtill ſo great, that I have much to do to write a very few lines. Mr. *Beale* wrote ten days ago, that he was ſorely afflicted with a moſt terrible cold: but having not written to me all this while, I fear his diſtempers are encreaſed upon him. I ſaw an excellent book yeſterday, coming piping hot out of the preſs from *Cambridge*, called, *The Immortality of the Soul, ſo far forth as is demonſtrable from the Knowledge of Nature and the Light of Reaſon. By* Henry More, *Fellow of* Chriſt's College *in* Cambridge. Mr. *Tompſon*, at the *White-Horſe*, hath part of the books. I had a few lines again from Mr. *Wood* at *Dublin Caſtle*, who writes, " We have tried your experiment upon one or two ſick " horſes, with good effect. I thank you for it, as alſo for your ingenious *Herefordian* " papers." Dr. *Petty* writes to my ſon, " Keep all your friends from prejudice until " I be heard, and make them mine, till the leaſt guilt appear in me." My ſon went down with the orders of the houſe for my lord *Craven* to come over, giving him protection for ſix months. He hath ſtayed out ſo many days, that we begin to apprehend

prehend he is gone over into the *Low Countries*, which alſo is no ſmall trouble unto me for the preſent. The officers of the army have ſtill their meeting, and will not be controuled: they are reſolved to juſtify the execution of *Charles Stuart*, but not the government by a ſingle perſon, but rather a commonwealth. They are reſolved againſt Preſbyterianiſm, and will have allowed an univerſal liberty of conſcience. They ſay they have ſent to the trained bands of *London*, to know whether they will ſtand by them or not. They are for a commonwealth, or for eſtabliſhing a military great council, *&c. &c.* Next week it is feared their declaration will come abroad. This day a great multitude of Quakers were admitted to the houſe; but they would not obey their orders nor commands, ſo that Mr. Speaker told them at laſt, they were a company of people that were againſt magiſtracy and miniſtry; and ſo they were diſmiſſed. The houſes have begun very reſpectfully to tranſact with each other, by members of their own, in their reſpective houſes. It is ſtill more and more confirmed, that the match and peace between *France* and *Spain* will ſuddenly be concluded. There is an expreſs come, that our fleet is ſafely arrived in the *Sound*. The *Holland* fleet is not yet at ſea. Thus, praying heartily and inceſſantly for your health, as a moſt public bleſſing, I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt aſſuredly devoted,

S. H.

THE adjoined paper is worth your beſt peruſal.

Honoured SIR, *Axe-yard, April* 19, 59.

MY laſt was on *Saturday*. Theſe are to acknowledge the reſpect to your laſt of *April* 16. I humbly thank you for the imparting of the ſecret of huſbandry: but, by the adjoined paper, you will ſee it is no ſecret to me. I did a year ago impart a copy of it to our *Herefordian* friend; but methought he was not much taken with it, though it coſt me, for the gaining of it, above fifteen pounds ſterling. My ingenious friend concluded (as far as I remember) that the poſſeſſor of it from whom I had it, had but little ſkill in huſbandry. He made alſo many other obſervations and animadverſions upon it, which I thought to have given you, but that I cannot find Mr. *Beale*'s letter written upon that occaſion. Sir *Charles Culpepper* had it from my communications above a year ago. He ſeemed to approve more of it than Mr. *Beale*, and I believe has made ſome trial, of which I ſhall deſire his account when I ſee him. I remember that I imparted this huſbandry to Mr. *Worſley* alſo, who judged it, if by experience it ſhould be found true, a particular good menſtruum, but falling very much ſhort of advancing thereby univerſal huſbandry. I beg again you would endeavour to intereſt yourſelf in that way, which Dr. *Kuffler* ſo highly boaſts of. I could eaſily obtain the deſired protection for him from many parliament-men; but I would willingly improve this occaſion for your greater intereſt in him, by making my lord *Broghill* his protector. I have ſufficiently inſtructed your moſt noble ſiſter in that affair, and make no queſtion I ſhall have a favourable account from her within a day or two. My ſon *Cledius* promiſed this forenoon, in the preſence of Mr. *Brereton*, to ſend you forthwith, beſides the promiſed things, ſome doſes of the adeptus's powder againſt agues. I am not a little troubled what is become of my ſon *H.* I ſhall not be unmindful of your commiſſion towards him. The following lines from my dear *Herefordian* go very near my heart. " Your two laſt are yet unanſwered: nor now can I do more than abbre-
" viate an acknowledgment of yours, without peril of loſing my ſight totally. I can
" neither

" neither write nor read without a flux of rheum upon my eyes, which glues them " together as oft as I ſleep. I think it no danger, and towards healing, if I forbear " ſtudies one week longer, and then I will endeavour to anſwer all yours. I am " troubled at Mr. *Boyle*'s ague; but it is here ſo epidemical, or indeed the leaſt of " maladies that are amongſt us. I have lately ſeen ſo many ſmitten with dead-palſies, " apoplexies, and giddineſs, that I take my own malady for a proof of a ſpecial de- " liverance. I noted the time when I took it, by a very malignant wind in my neck, " through a window, in time of my duty in the miniſtry. But who can complain of " perſonal maladies, when the public is ſo much diſtempered?" Thus far he, the letter being dated *April* 13. Yeſterday I had a letter again from Mr. *Oldenburg*, in theſe words: "Having been more than ordinary employed in buſineſs laſt week, " and being ſtill ſo at preſent, in changing lodgings, and putting ourſelves into an " academy, I know you have the goodneſs of excuſing my omiſſion of not giving " you thanks for your laſt, which I hope to do amply next week, if God will." The letter is dated *April* 23. Dr. *Kuffler* has promiſed me the diſcovery of the arcanum of the celeſtial liquor, which, as ſoon as I get, I ſhall not need to be called upon for to let you have a true copy of it. You do not determine the time of your coming up to *London*. I beg your promiſed communications about hatching of chickens. The encloſed paper on that argument I had from Mr. *Pell*. It is pretty to obſerve, that this ſubject is counted worthy of academical conſiderations and trials. Sir *William Paſton*'s ſon endeavoured to make a ſolemn experiment of late, but did not proſper in it. I am fully of your opinion concerning the Argonautic invention, or the wonderful ſhip. I ſuppoſe you know that Dr. *Chamberlain* (the man-midwife) is returned into *England*. He boaſts to have the invention of ſailing againſt wind and tide, or with all winds. The invention was divers years ago experimentally demonſtrated by one Mr. *Brewer*, a *Scottiſh* ſilenced miniſter, who receiving many favours from Mr. *Dury*, when he was impriſoned by the epiſcopal perſecution then raging, he was pleaſed, by way of gratitude, to reveal the whole myſtery of ſailing with all winds, or againſt wind and tide, unto Mr. *Dury*'s boſom, but not to diſcover it as long as the inventor was alive. He hath ſince been dead theſe many years; therefore let me earneſtly beſeech you, the next opportunity you ſhall have to ſpeak with Mr. *Dury*, to deſire the revelation of the ſaid invention to be made out and improved by yourſelf, and the better ſort of your mechanical relations, that ſo uſeful an accommodation to mankind may not be loſt. I do not care, if you tell him I did encourage you to this freedom, and I am perſuaded he will not deny it unto you. Here you have the votes of the commons that paſſed yeſterday. My lord *Broghill* was highly commended, that he had ſo effectually dealt with the officers of the army, in their meeting laſt week, that it was apprehended he had broken their deſign, eſpecially the city refuſing alſo to join with them, and Sir *H. Vane* utterly diſowning their proceedings, as moſt deſtructive to the public peace, and of bringing in of *C. S. &c. &c.* The houſe of commons thought good, as you ſee, to ſecond the hopeful work thus far begun. My lord protector himſelf has ſpoken alſo with our officers, as likewiſe the lord *Fleetwood* and lord *Diſbrowe*; but they are again very daring and high; and the other houſe hath refuſed this day to paſs the 1ſt and 2d reſolves of the commons, *&c. &c.* ſo that all ſeems to threaten a farther confuſion. There is alſo a very ſtrict enquiry made after *C. S.* he being ſuppoſed to be in or near the city. But my pains are too great, and I muſt conclude, remaining ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithfully devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

SIR,

My amanuenſis hath diſappointed me, that I cannot ſend the ſecret of huſbandry as it was imparted unto me. By the next occaſion it ſhall be ſent, God willing.

Honoured SIR,

YOUR laſt is dated *April* 23, forbidding to ſend by the poſt. I am but lately riſen, having been moſt grievouſly tormented all night long, and voided, beſides many little ſtones, a very great one, the like I have not done of late. But I am hugely perplexed about that excellent ſpirit of ſalt which I ſtill uſe daily, and which certainly works ſo mightily upon the ſtone, having broken and ſplit a glaſs with three ounces of it; the ſpirit, which is ſtrange, having made the glaſs ſo thin or brittle, that it broke with the leaſt touch in the opening of it. I had a letter from him who made it, I mean Mr. *Stahl*, expreſſing a reſolution to come over ſhortly into *England*. I forgot to write to him about thoſe retorts, in which the ſpirit of ſalt is made, and which cannot be had in *England*, to bring them over with him. My ſon *H.* is returned from *Holland* with my lord *Craven*; but my ſon *Clodius* is gone to *Graveſend*, to confer ſecretly with Monſieur *Schlezer*, who hides himſelf there, to be gone with the firſt fair wind to the king of *Sweden*. I know no more of the powder which my phyſical ſon ſent, but that it hath cured all thoſe that hath taken it. Mr. *Stroud* hath written to my ſon a confirmation of a ſilver mine, which now he is moſt certain of. After the expiration of ten or twelve months, it will yield him for certain yearly about two or three thouſand pounds a year. I heartily wiſh you may be bleſſed with the like mines. I beg the continuation of as many extracts, *&c.* out of ancient or modern authors, as you can procure on that ſubject of hatching of eggs. My ſon might have prepared ludus Helmontii for me before this time, but he wants bowels. I have not heard this week neither from Mr. *Beale*, which encreaſeth my torments. I ſhould be glad that the ſecret of huſbandry were ſucceſsfully experimented. I ſhall take ſpecial notice of the new edition of *Hoornbeck*'s *ſumma controverſiarum*. Mr. *Worſley* hath written to you a letter of two or three ſheets long: Will you not pleaſe to acquaint me with the communicable contents of it? Laſt *Saturday* I imparted the remainder of Dr. *Horne*'s letter, wherein were many obſervable matters. I alſo acquainted you fully with the ſtate of public affairs; ſince which time, all is kept very cloſe and ſecret. It is obſerved, that my lord *Lambert* hath been with his highneſs alone about two or three hours together. There is an evil eye againſt my lord *Broghill*, for adviſing (as ſome whiſper) to clap up *Fleetwood*, *Diſbrowe*, *&c.* into the *Tower*. Sir *A. Haſſerig* and Sir *H. V.* came on *Monday*, notwithſtanding the proclamation, offering to go into the houſe of commons, but the ſoldiers watching them would not permit it, the proclamation being affixed to the doors. The officers and common ſoldiers do not agree: the latter have choſen to themſelves new agitators; ſo that all remains in ſuſpence, and under expectations. Only at eleven o'clock yeſternight I was told, that the army is agreed upon a declaration and engagement, which is forthwith to be printed. Laſt Lord's day his highneſs was obſerved to weep in ſermon-time, which cauſed many ſheddings of tears in others; but yeſterday he was obſerved to be very chearful and merry. Dr. *Petty* made a moſt notable ſpeech before the parliament was diſſolved. I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithfully devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

A PEACE

A PEACE or truce for fourteen years between *France* and *Spain*, will certainly be concluded and publiſhed. Young *Clodius* being now at my chamber, preſents his moſt humble ſervice, ſignifying, that he is near an end of the tranſlation of the two choice chemical treatiſes, called *The Bawer*.

Incloſed in the preceding.

Hereford, April 13, 1659.

DEBUERAM in noviſſimis meis advertere, quod in ſupputatione Gregorii & Fiſheri toties à me memorati (qui niſi Uſſerianis mihi nondum perceptis cedant plurimam habent accurationis ſpeciem) à mundo condito ad paſſionem Chriſti, quam 34 *ætatis anno contigiſſe probabilius videtur,* 4000 *ſunt annorum, quod monet Fiſherus pag.* 31. *hiſce verbis:* The full time from the creation of *Adam* unto the death and paſſion of our Lord and Saviour *Jeſus Chriſt* is 4000 years and 10 days. *De* 10 *diebus (ſi de iis lis eſſet) ratio myſtica & monitoria facilè occurret, è quibus* 6. *ab Adamo ad creationis primordia,* 4. *ad millenorum cenſum, ubi (ut ait apoſtolus) in oculis Domini una dies pro mille annis cenſenda eſt, & cum* 400. *cub. Ezek.* xlvii. 3, 4, 5. *quadrat. Et hæc eſt periodus, in quâ conſummationen agnovit Dominus. Nihil interim aſſero, omnia argutioribus penitiùs diſcutienda propina; Danielis computum, qui de monarchiis tàm apertè meminit ſaltem Johannis Apocalypticam* 666, *ſi verus in numeris ſenſus eſt, mallem ad periodum in quâ Pompeius Hieroſolymam occupavit, quam ad natalitia Chriſti referre. Nam & ab occupatâ Hieroſolyma ad beſtialem vel belluinam Bonifacii* 3. *uſurpationem, & ad Mahumedis inſpirationem diabolicam non multum abſcedit, imò, quantum in præſens conjicio, omninò congruit numerus* 666. *pro certo hoc vulgo conſtituitur Bonifacium A. C.* 606. *à Phoca obtinuiſſe, ut Roma caput eccleſiarum, pontifex pater patrum & epiſcoporum princeps haberetur. Et hic annus fuit ab occupata Hieroſolyma* 666. *Mahumedes quoque eâ tempeſtate jam nobilis per orientem nequitiarum artibus, inſpirationumque fraudibus, ſummi nomen prophetæ accepit. Nunc non vacat, uter harum ſit rex ille Abaddon ex abyſſo aſcendens Apoc.* ix. *quærere.*

Ideò de computo Dionyſiano ſecundum Gregorium & Fiſherum ſtatum inando toties mentionem feci, qua plurimùm ad futuram millenariorum periodum conducere videtur, & ſelectiora ſunt, quæ hâc cauſâ proferunt illi. Litem hanc in Eutychianis ſuis obſtinatè declinavit Seldenus noſter, ut videre eſt in præfatione, & ad numerum 15. *pag.* 68. *Fatetur interim Eutychium ſuum addere computo Dionyſiano annos octo. Nimirùm Eutychius paſſim in chronologia ſua Chriſti natales octennio facit recentiores, quàm in æra vulgari.—Adeoque ex ea ratione Hegiram ab anno Chriſti* 614. *auſpicatur, quam unanimes tribuunt chronologi noſtri anno vulgari Chriſti* 622. *& l. c. p.* 68. *ſic ait; De octennii diſcrimine conſonus eſt in anno Nic. Conc.* 1^mo *deſignando Doropheus Monembaſiæ metropolita &c.—Sic igitur ut Scal. unum addit annum, Calviſius duos, Laurentius Syſyga Polonus* 4. *Kepplerus* 5. *hi addunt* 8. This is all I can preſent, being always,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate ſervant.

Honoured SIR, *May* 10, 1659.

I WAS in good hope we ſhould have ſeen you before this time: but as long as you are abſent, nothing can be more welcome than your letters, of which the laſt is dated *May* 7. On *Saturday* I ſent you a full repreſentation of our public affairs. I have not thoſe two *German* tracts, which young *Clodius* is tranſlating, ſo that I cannot tell the particular themes or contents of them. Only in the general I can inform, that they deſcribe the whole philoſophical work with ſuch rationality and candour,

as few other books of the ſame nature can be compared with it. The author, it is certainly known, had the philoſopher's ſtone. Young *Clodius* is returned again into the country. Your engagement for Mr. *Pocock* will be very acceptable for Dr. *Worthington*. I wiſh you would alſo improve the foreſaid learned gentleman's ſkill in *Arabic* to a more conſiderable uſe. The *French* gentleman ſhould have been characteriſed alſo by his name. I thought a treatiſe of *Des Cartes de Animalibus* had been publiſhed long ago; but Mr. *Oldenburg* ſpeaks of it as a new matter, in theſe words: "I ſuppoſe you have heard, that there is another volume of *Des Cartes*'s letters under the preſs, which will ſhortly be finiſhed; and after that, a treatiſe of the ſame author *De Animalibus*, wherein he endeavours more particularly to prove, than in his other writings, that all their actions are merely mechanical. They are advanced by an admirer of his, called Monſieur *Cherſelier*, who is here at *Paris*, and of our acquaintance; by whom we ſaw the other day *Des Cartes*'s own hand concerning that ſubject, and, amongſt other particulars, a compariſon of his between the operations of the body of animals, and the harmony of organs; affirming, that as the ſaid harmony depends from three things, *viz.* the air, that comes from the bellows; the pipes, that give the ſound; and the diſtribution of that air into theſe pipes; that juſt ſo the functions of an animal; that is to ſay, the motion of its members depend only from the animal ſpirits proceeding from the heart, that are like to the air coming from the bellows. 2. From the pores of the brain, through which thoſe ſpirits paſs; and the nerves and muſcles, into which they paſs, reſembling the pipes that give the ſound. And, 3. From the manner in which they are diſtributed into them; inſomuch, that as our church-organs, *&c.* are thus diſpoſed, that from the agitation and diſtribution of the wind into the pipes, there follows neceſſarily a ſound and harmony, which we hear; even ſo an animal is compoſed, that whereas the animal ſpirits are preſſed into the cavities of the brain, and thence conveyed through the nerves into the muſcles, there muſt of neceſſity follow thoſe motions in the members which we ſee." Thus far he; the letter being dated *April* laſt. But it ſeems that that *De Homine* will be a treatiſe apart. I wonder that Mr. *Oldenburg* hath not written concerning the weekly learned aſſembly at *Paris*. My books from *Holland* are at laſt arrived. I humbly deſire to know, whether I ſhould keep them here till you come up to *London*, or whether you will have them ſent to *Oxford*. Yeſterday I had a letter from Mr. *Beale*, beginning with theſe words: "And becauſe you are ſo tender of my health, I muſt give you account that the flux and bloodineſs of mine * * * *.

Honoured SIR, *May* 17, 1659.

MY laſt was on *Saturday*, preſenting the continuation of our public affairs. Since I received your laſt of *May* 14, I humbly thank you, for naming the gentleman of the *French* club. The reſt of your letter I ſhall certify alſo to Mr. *Oldenburg*. The names of the books lately come over are, *Lucerna Salis Philoſophorum. Hoc eſt, Delineatio nuda deſiderati illius principii. Tertii Mineralium Sendivogiani, in* 8 *pag.* 167. II. *Ejuſdem Authoris Tr. Germanicus de Principio Tertio Mineralium, ſive Sale Philoſophico, in* 8*vo, pag.* 44. III. *Joh. Iſaaci Hollandi Opus Vegetabile.* All in high *Dutch*, in 8vo, pag. 144. by which you may ſee, that it is but a little piece of *Hollandus*'s greater work. IV. *Novum Lumen Chemicum, ſive Medicum Polmanni*, in ſmall 8vo, all in high *Dutch*, of a very fine and ſmall character, pag. 82. opening the myſtery of the *Sulphura Philoſophor.* My ſon hath read it, and commends it as a moſt excellent piece for advancement and amendment of all medicinal knowledge: he counts alſo the whole

whole treatiſe moſt worthy to be tranſlated. There is alſo ſent unto me another book, which I did not write for, being all the *Opera Paracelſi* in *Latin* folio in one volume, with his *Opus Chirurgicum*, which was never extant in *Latin* before, and yet his maſterpiece. The price unbound is thirty three ſhillings, or one pound thirteen ſhillings; whereas, in *Paul*'s *Church-yard*, I am told it is rated at one pound fifteen ſhillings. I pray let me know your mind, if you will have that alſo. The other two treatiſes, tranſlating by *Clodius*, though they profeſſedly treat of the philoſopher's ſtone, yet it ſeems they have divers collateral good things, as an inſtance has been given unto me in the culture of vines. The continuation of the papers concerning artificial hatching is very welcome. I have lately obliged Mr *Oldenburg*'s gentleman in *Languedoc*; ſo that he hath obtained from him that precious and wonderful oil, which he lighted upon in ſearching after *Butler*'s ſtone. And Mr. *Oldenburg* having imparted this ſecret in his laſt, I cannot but confide the ſame unto you by way of recital, the recipe of it being as followeth.

RECIPE.

Oleum melioris notæ. Hoc diſtilla eo quo decet modo magnus V. Helmont. Diſtillati ☉ calcina ut ibidem dictum. Calcinatum miſce cum ana ☽ & ♎ bis aut ter. Habebis ♎ rubicundiſſimum in frigido ſolubile in oleum pretioſum, cujus aliquot guttulæ aliquamdiu cum oleo communi maceratæ, illud colore rubicundiſſimo tingunt. Quod hoc modo debite præparatum eadem, quæ multoties expertus ſum, & vobis narravi, effecta præſtabit, ſi Deo omnis boni largitori placuerit.

"Theſe effects, as he told us, were the virtues of curing head-achs, palſies, and "all ricketing diſeaſes." Thus far Mr. *Oldenburg*, forbidding the communication of it to my chemical ſon, except he will gratify the ſaid gentleman with a copy of the *Helmontian* manuſcript, which he hath in his poſſeſſion. Mr *Oldenburg* adds: "The "ſame *Languedocian* gentleman hath ſent me the title and abridgment of a ſtrange "book, found out ſome years ago in *Provence*, which I may communicate alſo to "your ſon-in-law, according as I find his anſwer to my former deſires. To give "him a taſte of it, I ſhall ſay only thus much at preſent, that it is called, *Hebdomas* "*Hebdomadum, Cabaliſtarum, Magorum, Brachmannarum, antiquorumque omnia Sapien*"*tum Myſteria continens.*" Thus far Mr. *Oldenburg*. As ſoon as I hear any thing from Dr. *Horne*, you ſhall be ſure to know it. I wrote largely, and ſent ſome conſiderable preſents unto him, of books and manuſcripts, to oblige him the more to the performance of his promiſes concerning ſalts, and ſome other uſeful experiments. Here I ſend you Mr. *Auſtin*'s anſwer, to requite your kindneſs of having put you to the trouble to impart that extract unto him out of Mr. *Beale*'s letter concerning raiſin wine. Mr. *Brereton* is extremely melancholy and ſad, not only in reſpect of his private, but much more of the public affairs; but the particulars are of that nature, that they muſt not be written, but referred to your meeting. Here you have the liſt of the members of the council of ſtate, which is likely to ſit in the lords houſe: for yeſterday the parliament hath voted the ſelling of *White-hall*, *Somerſet-houſe*, *Hampton-court*, and *Greenwich*. They talk of a petition to be brought in againſt lords *Fleetwood* and *Diſbrowe*, and a dictatorian power to be ſettled in the army. I cannot learn the certainty of a new report, ſpread with great confidence, of my lord deputy of *Ireland* taking the field for the defence of his late highneſs: he is willing, they ſay; to allow of the diſſolution of parliament, but by no means of diſſolving the protectorate. In a word, there is a general conſternation over the hearts of men amongſt us; the like, I confeſs, I have never obſerved. I muſt needs very heartily acknowledge your now coming favour, which, inſtead of making uſe of for other good purpoſes,

poſes, I am conſtrained to ſupply my own neceſſities, into which I am alſo reduced by the preſent change, my penſions of two hundred pounds a year being founded upon his highneſs's and council's orders, and privy ſeals, now utterly made null. Laſt our *Lady-day* I ſhould have received ſeventy-five pounds out of the exchequer; but it being delayed till this change of government, there is no hope to get one penny of it. I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithfully, and

thankfully devoted,

S. HARTLIB.

P. S. The bad news out of *Ireland* is too true. My ſon *Clodius* ſpoke with one, that came from thence eight days ago. I have entreated him to give his relation by this poſt.

Thurſday, May 19.

THIS day the parliament paſt an act for conſtituting *John Sadler*, *John Sparrow*, and *Samuel Moyer*, judges for probate of wills. They alſo referred to a committee to conſider, how the proving of wills may be diſtributed into the ſeveral counties of *England*, and of what was formerly done upon the bill for regiſters in the ſeveral counties. They alſo paſt an act for conſtituting *John Godolphin*, and *Charles Georges Cock*, Eſqrs; judges of the admiralty. They referred it to a committee to inform themſelves of the yearly value of the regiſter's office for probate of wills, and what part of it will be fit to be reſerved for the uſe of the commonwealth. They referred it to the ſaid committee, to take conſideration of all other offices that are or ſhall be in the diſpoſal of the ſtate; to the end it may be reſolved, what will be fit to be allowed the officers, and the reſt to be applied to the public ſervice; and to conſider of any claims as ſhall be made to any ſuch offices, and to offer their opinion to the houſe, what will be fit to be done therein. They referred it to the council of ſtate to conſider how far this nation is, or is like to be, engaged in war or peace with other nations; and to prevent this nation being engaged in war, without conſent of parliament. They referred it to a committee to bring in a bill for repealing the act to *H. Scobell*, Eſq; for being clerk of the parliament; and for conſtituting the ſaid office upon Mr. *St. Nicholas*. They paſt the act and inſtructions for a council of ſtate, who are like to ſit to-morrow at *White-hall*. Upon a petition of the inhabitants of the bay of *South-hold* in *Suffolk*, where by a ſudden fire two hundred thirty-eight manſion houſes were ſuddenly burnt, they ordered the ſpeaker to ſign divers patents for collecting the charity of the people throughout all *England* towards their great loſs.

Honoured SIR,

ON *Thurſday* I communicated largely on public affairs. Yeſterday I had a letter from Mr. *Wood*, in theſe words. " Your recipe for the curing the preſent plague " in horſes has proved very effectual, as well in my lord's ſtable as elſewhere; divers " of our horſes that took it, have been cured; and, indeed, all of them, to which it " hath been carefully applied; and though ſome of them have relapſed, yet the ſame " means has reſtored them; and the recovered horſes are now moſt of them at ſoil " with clover-graſs; two acres of which we have hired this ſummer, from *May* to " *Michaelmas*, at ten pound rent, and that in *Ireland* too, which I mention, that you " may ſee it is profitable ſomewhere, notwithſtanding the diſcouragement your friend

" mentions he received. God, in his mercy, grant a good iſſue to the preſent revolu-
" tions in *England*. I hope we ſhall continue quiet here. Dr. *Petty* is newly landed,
" but I have not ſeen him yet. This evening my lord of *Corke* came to town, and
" brings news that my lord *Broghill* arrived ſafe at *Waterford* yeſterday morning.
" Pray let my lady *Ranelagh* know this." Thus far Mr. *Wood*, the letter being dated *May* 11. Mr. ſecretary came two days ago to the committee of ſafety, intimating, that though he was laid by, and ſeveral affronts put upon him, yet that he was reſolved to ſerve the commonwealth with all faithfulneſs; and therefore came to give them certain intelligence which he had received, that forty *Holland* men of war were upon our *Engliſh* coaſts, plying to and fro, and that had *Charles Stuart* amongſt them, who happily with his men might be landed in *Ireland*. They ſay he was not much thanked for it, being told that they had their own intelligence and needed none of his informations. Lord *Fleetwood* profeſſed lately, that he was in ſuch ſtraits, that he could not tell which way to turn himſelf. The ſeveral differences are not yet compoſed; and the agitators, with the common ſoldiers, are worſt of all. *Thurſday* night were obſerved ſome affrighting ſigns in the air, about ten o'clock at night a blazing ſtar with a great tail in the form of a rod, and afterwards of a ſword, appearing over *Whitehall* and towards *Weſtminſter*. I can ſay no more, but reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

May 21, 1659. your moſt ready and faithful,

Manus Nota.

Honoured SIR, *May* 31, 59.

ON *Saturday* laſt I ſignified the arrival (amongſt other particulars) of Mr. *Worſley*. Your laſt is dated *May* 28. Ludus Helmontii is not yet prepared, though my torments need a remedy more than ever. I believe you could prepare as good an oil as that of the *Languedocian* gentleman ſeems to be. Your new teleſcope will be extremely welcome to Mr. *Worſley*. When you return to *London*, I hope you will not leave it at *Oxford*. I had large letters of late from worthy Mr. *Beale*, but they are on an argument concerning the reformation of *Engliſh* laws and lawyers, wherein your excellent ſiſter deſired his beſt aſſiſtance. The balſam of ſulphur I had from my phyſical ſon, who aſſured me, that though it was not the beſt which he could make, yet it was very good. He is of your opinion, that the ſpirit of man's blood, and the ſpirit of hartſhorn, are a far more powerful and effectual medicine for an aſthmatical cough than the foreſaid balſam. We long to ſee you at *London*, that you may be alſo more freely acquainted with our public affairs, which muſt not be committed to paper. I ſuppoſe you will hear from ſome other hands, that the earl of *Warwick* is departed this world. Since my laſt, the houſe hath been reſolved into a grand committee; ſo that they are not yet come to any votes in parliament. Reſident *Bradſhaw* (for ſo he was for ſome time in that quality at *Hamburgh*) is to go within a day or two to the *Sound in viam* with new inſtructions: ſo that I apprehend Sir *Philip Meadows*, our reſident there, is or will be called home. The like courſe, it may be, will be taken with Mr. *Downing*, our reſident at the *Hague*, where *Holland*, *France* and *England* are now fully agreed about the articles, according to which the two Northern kings might make their peace. There is a ſyndicus arrived from the city of *Lubeck*, to preſent to this commonwealth the conveniency of that place, and that they are willing to allow of a ſociety or corporation of *Engliſh* merchants, to improve the trade of *England*, if they will accept of it. There are alſo great overtures on foot, to make a firm alliance between *England*, *Holland*, and *Sweden*, which would certainly be

be a threefold cord that could not eaſily be broken. There is a vote paſſed, that the late protector ſhall not diſpoſe of the deer in *James*'s park. The new fleet, which is ſuddenly to be ſet out, is to conſiſt of threeſcore men of war. The fear of an univerſal inſurrection is no more ſo great as it was ſome days ago. The remaining heads or articles of the army's petition are ſtill under debate. This day a letter was read from general *Monck*, wherein he informs of *Charles Stuart* being lately at the *Hague*, and of the deſigns, which are apprehended to be contriving to diſturb the peace of the nation of *Scotland*; which letter was referred to the council of ſtate. Upon report made from the council of ſtate, the houſe took up the conſideration of the intereſt of the commonwealth, in reference to the ſame, and have reſolved, that there be appointed plenipotentiaries by the ſtate, for obtaining a good peace between the two *Northern* kings, and to adjuſt and ſecure the intereſt of this commonwealth and its allies in the *Sound*, and, with the aſſiſtance of the fleet of this commonwealth and other fleets of its allies, to endeavour the ſame. They reſolved, that the perſons to be appointed ſhould be five, who, or any three of them, ſhould be impowered to tranſact in this affair, and to act by ſuch inſtructions as the council of ſtate ſhould give. The names of the ſaid commiſſioners are firſt to be approved by the parliament. The reſt is in the adjoined paper. Lilium convallium is ſaid to augment very much the natural fragrancy of *Rheniſh* wine. Whole barrels full are fetched by the *Dutch* from *Norway*, being dried. For the wine-merchants there, by putting ſtore of this lilium convallium into *French* wines, they turn them into *Rheniſh* wine. I pray tell, in your next, where lilium convallium is growing moſt plentifully in *England*. I cannot learn but that it is very ſcarce. I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt readily devoted

SAM. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Octob.* 22, 59.

MY laſt was dated *Octob.* 18, wherein I gave you thanks for tranſmitting *Bill*'s anatomical papers: ſince I received a box from the carrier, with the ludus humanus without any letter. Nor have I received any line from your hands, in anſwer to my three former letters. Theſe are to preſent unto you my moſt humble thanks for the foreſaid ludus, which I ſhall urge my ſon to make out of hand. This week Mr. *Jones* hath ſaluted me with a very kind letter, containing a very ſingular obſervation, in theſe words. "Concerning the generation of pearls, I am of "opinion, that they are engendered in the cockel-fiſhes (I pray, Sir, give me the "*Latin* word of it in your next) of the ſame manner as the ſtone in our body, which "I endeavour fully to ſhew, in a diſcourſe of mine about the generation of pearls; "which, when I ſhall have done it, ſhall wait upon you for my part in revenge of "your obſervations. I heard lately a very remarkable ſtory about margarites, from "a perſon of quality and honour in this town, which you will be glad, I believe, to "hear. A certain *German* baron of about twenty-four years old, being at priſon "here at *Paris*, in the ſame chamber with a *Frenchman* (who told this, as having "been eye-witneſs of it, to him that told it me) they having both need of money, "the baron ſent his man to a goldſmith, to buy ſeven or eight ordinary pearls, of "about twenty-pence a piece, which he put a diſſolving in a glaſs of vinegar, and "being well diſſolved, he took the paſte, and put it together with a powder (which "I ſhould be glad to know) into a golden mould which he had in his pocket, and "ſo put it a warming for ſome time upon the fire; after which, opening the mould,

"they

" they found a very great and lovely oriental pearl in it, which they ſold for about " two hundred crowns, although it was a great deal more worth. The ſame baron " throwing a little powder he had with him into a pitcher of water, and letting it " ſtand about four hours, made the beſt wine that a man can drink." Thus far the truly hopeful young gentleman, whereby he hath hugely obliged me. I wiſh he had the forementioned powder, that we might try, whether we could make the like pearls and wine. The great ſociety, which is ſaid to have far greater matters, is like to break forth next week. For this week the concluſion was, *cum fine hujus ſeptimanæ finis erit miſeriarum veſtrarum.* As ſoon as their declaration is out, I ſhall not fail to ſend you a copy, with what elſe I may. In the mean while, I humbly beg your ſilence concerning the forementioned concluſion. Mr *Woodnot*, my ſtationer, hath the anatomical papers, with Mr. *Pell*'s deſired explanation: for I know he will get it as cheap as any ſtationer with whom you are acquainted. You will let me know how many copies ſhall be ſent unto you with your other promiſed directions for the diſtributions of them. Nothing is ſince my laſt paſſed in the public affairs of any extraordinary conſequence. *Monck*'s letter to the parliament is now in print, wherein he declares againſt the petition and propoſals of the army; but colonel *Cobbet* is diſpatched with new inſtructions into *Scotland*, and colonel *Barrow* to *Ireland*, to inform them what is paſſed between the parliament and army, with the reaſons of their proceedings. The council of ſtate have in a manner diſſolved themſelves of their own accord, ſome adhering to the parliament, ſome to the army, of which number are Sir *H. Vane*, major *Salaway*, Sir *J. Harrington*, lord *Wareſton*, colonel *Sydenham*, lord *Whitelocke*. Sir *A. Haſlerig* is going into the country, if he be not gone already. On *Wedneſday* the general council of officers held a faſt in *Whitehall* chapel. Lord *Fleetwood* is declared and owned commander in chief over all the land forces; *Lambert*, major general of the forces in *England* and *Scotland*; *Diſbrowe*, commiſſary general of the horſe; lieutenant general *Ludlow* is made one of the committee to nominate all ſuch perſons, who hereafter ſhall be admitted officers of the army. Lord *Bradſhaw* is fallen ſo ill, that they begin to deſpair of his life. Some of the ſemi-council of ſtate, and of the general council of officers, were ſent to offer the keeping of the great ſeal of *England* to Mr. Speaker; but he would not accept of it. Both the foreſaid councils are daily conſulting about the drawing up a declaration to the three nations, and what government to introduce and ſettle; but nothing as yet concluded. Yeſterday an expreſs was diſpatched into the *Sound*. Mr. *Worſley* never comes at me, yet I heard he confeſſed to lord *Frieſendorf*, that if the parliament had ſat four days longer, his head would have gone off. Lord *Lambert* received a letter with high promiſes from *C. S.* but he ſhewed it to Sir *H. Vane*, and others of the council. I can hold out ſcarce any longer, but ſubſcribe myſelf,

Honoured Sir,

your ever faithfully devoted

S. HARTLIB.

P. S. There is a council of ſtate conſtituted, conſiſting of twenty-three perſons, of whom I have named ſome already; the reſt are, *Hewſon*, *Steele*, *Tichbourne*, *Ireton*, the late preſident *Lawrence*. The reſt I cannot call to mind. Theſe are to make up the government for the preſent. Commiſſioner *Liſle*, lord *Whitelocke*, and one more, are the keepers of the great ſeal of *England*.

Honoured Sir, *Nov.* 1, 59.

I HAVE ſent by a *Bohemian* divine, that hath been commended to *Oxford* by Mr *Comenius*, and lived lately as chaplain with Mr. *Thurloe* (his name is *Paulus Hartmannus*) the deſired twenty-five copies of *Bill*'s *Anatomy*, together with the army's declaration. If I do not ſend the account at this time, it ſhall be incloſed in my next, under Mr. *Woodnot* the ſtationer's own hand. By him I have ſent the forty copies to Dr. *Cox* (for you need not queſtion but they will be acceptable) in your name. And I am diſtributing to the reſt of the gentlemen, whom you have named, as faſt as I can meet with them. I mean alſo to ſend one to monſieur *Bill* himſelf, to let him know, what honour hath been done unto him by a young nobleman in theſe parts; and many more to friends in the *Low Countries*. Really you have done an excellent work, for ſpreading this anatomical magnale upon the honeſt learned world. I have received no letters from you ſince the 24th of *October*, which ſomewhat troubles me, becauſe I cannot tell, whether any of my letters, which have been ſent theſe two weeks, have come to your hands. I ſhould be very much troubled if they are miſcarried. Amongſt other particulars, I wrote ſomething concerning the ſecret ſociety ſuddenly to break forth. I ſuppoſe I ſhall ſhortly be acquainted with ſome of the members; nor ſhall I ſhrink to propoſe unto them that ſame, which monſieur *Bill* doth require for carrying on of that noble work. For if all be true what I hear, though it ſeem great, yet is but a trifle to them. And truly if I had any ſuch ſtock, I ſhould ſuffer no body to ſhare with me in the glory of that public charity. The very laſt poſt I received the following lines. "Monſieur *Bill* lives at preſent at *Rotterdam* in the *Engliſh* Court (ſo is the name of the "houſe where he lives in *Rotterdam*.) He is a *Frenchman*; ſpeaks *French*, *Low Dutch*, "and *Latin*. He hath four bodies, two men and two women, ſo anatomiſed, that he "can ſhew the inward ſtate of a man's body. For all the parts of the body are in the "body, except the guts and brains, which lie by. He aſketh above 100000 *Dutch* "guilders, and then he will teach the anatomy out of them to ſcholars, ſurgeons, *&c.* "He ſaith, this coſt him not only infinite pains and head-breakings, but that, of his "own patrimony, he ſpent to this work 60000 guilders. He affirms, that *Paris* hath "preſented him about 20000 francs, and *Amſterdam* about 3000 francs, for 2 corpora; "but he will not ſell them apart, but in that manner as I mentioned. It ſeems it "is very rare, that he anatomiſed, in ſuch a manner, thoſe bodies, and prepared "alſo, that they can be clearly ſeen, every thing in his proper place. The like is "yet never done in this world!" The letter is dated *October* 31. From another confiding friend, Mr. *Dury* was lately acquainted after this manner. *Ecce afferuntur generoſo domino de Geere Conſtantinopoli literæ a domino Warnero, quem ille ante triennium jam & prece atque pretio requiſiverat, vellet; tranſlationem biblici codicis in linguam Turcican ſibi cordi curæque eſſe. Dictum factum. Bonus ille & domui de Geerianæ ob promota pridem juventutis ſuæ ſtudia obſtrictus atque deditiſſimus, laborem iſtum hujus commendatione, & lauti ſubſidii ſubminiſtratione, alacriter ſuſcepit, atque quod jam ſcribit, eouſque promovit & peregit, ut pauca reſtent, quin brevi diem univerſa biblia lingua Turcica loqui conſtet. Promittit enim exemplar MS. ad typos promovendum intra ſemeſtre hoc circiter ſe poſſe & velle, huc ad gen. dominum de Geere curare.* This is as welcome and refreſhing as that of *Bill*'s, ſave that he hath no *de Geere* appearing for him. Mr. *Beale* returns his thanks in theſe words. "I have taſted of Seraphic Love. It is like a deep river, "carrying more ſtrength than noiſe. The Jeſuit *Euſebius* of *Nuremburg de Ingenio* "*Amoris* hath broken the myſtery of divine love into fragments of ſhort wit: as if "one would cut hair ſhort, to make it ſtrong." Thus far he. I am mightily perplexed for the preſent, being likely to loſe, by carrier, a manuſcript of above twenty ſheets

ſheets of his *De Re Hortulana*. Mr *Oldenburg* begs moſt earneſtly to be gratified, according to his deſires, in the incloſed paper. If you would vouchſafe alſo to ſend it to Mr. *Auſten*, to know his anſwer upon it, the kindneſs would be very obliging to us both. Lord *Bradſhaw* died yeſterday in the afternoon, having left behind him lands worth ſix thouſand pounds, beſides a great perſonal eſtate. *Monck* is ſaid to be on his march. Our forces are to march alſo, having received two months pay. *Monck* doth declare not for a free parliament, but for this laſt diſſolved. And it is confidently reported by ſome, that the old diſſolved parliament, within a very few days will ſit again. The hearts of men are filled with ſadneſs and apprehenſions of all manner of confuſions, more than ever. Thus, earneſtly longing for your letters, I reſt,

SIR,

your trueſt votary,

SAM. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *Nov.* 15, 1659.

LAST *Saturday* I ſent a very bulky packet coming from *Ireland*, with a copy of *Dalgarno*'s letter, and a few lines of my cure. Yeſterday I received again one of your deſirable letters without any date, but ſuppoſe to be written on *Saturday* laſt. For that trick again I ſhall ſend no more packets by friends; for ſo they have ſerved me for the moſt part upon the like occaſions. Mr *Pell* deſired to have the correcting of the print, as thinking himſelf far more nice and critical than your humble ſervant. He had it, but it ſeems the porter did not find him at home when he brought to him the firſt ſheet, nor could I ſpeak with him till the ſecond ſheet alſo was printed off. I can aſſure you, the written copy was no other than that which is printed, but I was forgetful to ſend back thoſe lines, it only concerning myſelf (who in truth is nothing elſe but a lump of worſer faults) and being greedy to have it printed off with all expedition. I have received letters lately out of *New England*, whither I purpoſe, God willing, to ſend a packet of ten or twenty copies, and as many to *Jamaica*, to my ſpecial good friend there Dr. *Browne*, that from both thoſe places they may diſperſe them to other *Engliſh* plantations. I humbly beg to enlarge or explain yours, in what particulars you apprehend the *Madagaſcar* way or practice may be made more uſe of, than the natives are aware of. If you anſwer, I ſhall add it to the heap of your other obligations. The queries, which you farther make about the *Turkiſh* Bible, I cannot reſolve, but ſhall write, God willing, to have them anſwered by monſieur *de Geere* himſelf. As I did laſt week let him know, what aſpect was caſt from yours and *Oxford* towards him, and ſuch kind of endeavours, and how far you were advanced towards the ſame deſign. I ſhall alſo enquire of Mr. *Hottenger* about a catechiſm, but do not put Mr. *Pocock* upon any ſuch tranſlation, till I ſhall have imparted unto you ſome few lines about the method of propagating or inſinuating of religion by catechiſms. Mr. *Pell* tells me, that *Warnerus* is a moſt accompliſhed man, and that for his great abilities and ſkill in *Arabic* and other oriental languages, he was counted worthy to be ſent to be reſident for the ſtates at the Ottoman court. He added withal, that many years ago *Warnerus* had publiſhed his Collectanea of all the paſſages concerning Chriſt out of the Alcoran. I have written for it to *Warnerus*'s friends laſt *Friday*; for I know it will mightily pleaſe our *Herefordian* friend. Mr. *Oldenburg* ſays, that more experiments de vacuo are greatly longed for by your *French* philoſophers. Yeſterday I received the ſum of *5l.* by your appointment. The title of Mr. *Beale*'s manuſcript is called, *A free diſcovery*

of the true, lawful, holy, and divine expedient for the propagation of the gospel, and establishment of an universal peace all over the world. It is above twenty-six sheets, besides many other sheets formerly written on the same argument, which I am to add, whensoever it is printed, and then it will come to I know not how many more; so that I fear it will be too big and hazardous for your undertaking in these unsettled times. Mr. *Brereton* was stark wild after it, having read but a few pages. He does not legally own it, because of the many paradoxes, or rather free truths in it, as I do judge them. But writing to him how providentially he had met with the said manuscript (for he meeting with the carrier, seeing so great a bulk, and knowing Mr. *B.*'s hand, paid the carrier, and returned with it to my study,) and how I was constrained to open the packet in his presence, liking it so highly, obtained leave to transcribe a copy. The truth is, I design all such and the like works or tracts be printed upon the charges of *Macaria*, whose scope it is most professedly to propagate religion, and to endeavour the reformation of the whole world. But it is scarce one day (or hour in the day) or night, being brim full with all manner of objects of that public and most universal nature, but my soul is crying out,

Phosphore! redde diem, quid gaudia nostra moraris?
Phosphore, redde diem!

Perhaps within a few days longer I may for an interim present your goodness another subject of worth and usefulness, upon which you may spend that sum, which now you have deposited in my hands; and by doing so you relieve in the mean while very great extremities. For yet I am overwhelmed with all manner of smaller and greater debts or engagements. Nor dare I for the present disrobe myself of all the occasions and advantages I have of continuing in my ways of well doing. For this would be—*Devorato bove in caudo deficere*; yet a little while, and deliverance will come. I told Mr. *B.* out of your former, that you were too much an orator. He answers—*De re Christiana optime meruit eruditissimus Pococius, quod argumenta Grotiana Arabice reddidit recte: ait Bovillus (Boylius) noster preclarissimus, satis esse, si Christiani ex vero simus. Nil opus alio charactere, neque nomenclatoris additamento. Verum quid ille me oratorem nominabat! Mallem virum bonum, bonum, agricolam, colonum bonum Catonis aut Varronis suffragio. Nemo nisi vir bonus potest esse orator, ut ait Cicero, ipse oratorum princeps. Ego, si essem orator, non tam ingrato forem animo, ut in redhibitione tum diu obmutescerim. Illud insuper addo, ecquem novimus oratorem evadere, qui in pulvere scholastico integram juventutem disperdere necesse habuit, quod mihi misero satis importunis obvenit. Obsecro meo nomine summo viro plurimam salutem impertire non dedigeris, et in operibus Dei referandis bono publico & posteris operam tam sero navantem auspiciis divinis prosequamur.* That which follows written by the same good hand is no ways so pleasing. "That "you mistake not, the hortulan paradoxes were sent above six weeks ago, and I "conclude they are lost from us. That of transmutation of flowers is surely in the "warehouse at *London*. If it should be lost, it is not in my power to repeat it or "to recover it; for it is the first draught, and as soon as I have engrossed, I am "wont to discharge my memory. And my memory holds me to that covenant of "immunity; and as the beast will not feed on blown fodder, so doth my spirit love "fresh air and free perambulations. *Nempe ut*

"*Avia Pieridum peragrem loca, nullius ante*
"*Trita solo, juvat integros accidere fontes.*"

THE letter is dated *Nov.* 24. The packet to my great grief is not found in the *London* warehouse. I have begged search to be made at *Hereford*. I have called upon

upon *Clodius* to write to you, and to send you the desired *Dutch* books. As I am called upon to pay for them, which as yet my son hath not done to me, it encreases my present burdens. I suppose you have heard, that *Canaparius de Atramentis*, is lately reprinted at *London*. Worthy Mr. *Pocock* will not willingly hear of the death of Mr. *Gouland*, once library-keeper of the bishop of *Lincoln*'s library at *Westminster*. Lord *Bradshaw* left no last will at all. Yesterday came forth a very notable discourse, called lord general *Fleetwood*'s answer to the humble representation of colonel *Morley* and some other late officers of the army, wherein he declares his judgment and conscience, what is the good old cause, and for a free parliament as the only expedient for *England*'s settlement. Sir *H. V.* is said to separate himself from the councils of *Wallingford* house, professing his resolvedness to retire to his country-house. The commissioners have agreed to lay by the old parliament, and that the armies shall proceed no further. I rest, *&c. &c.*

Honoured SIR, *Nov.* 26, 1659.

I HOPE you have received my letter on *Tuesday* by the *Danish* master of arts *Petreus*. You may please to impart unto Mr. *Pocock* and to him the following lines. "I "had yesterday a letter out of *Germany* from monsieur *Ludolf*, governor of the "young princes of *Gothe*, whom I find very studious and skilful in the *Æthi-* "*opian* tongue and religion. He hath begun a new *Æthiopian* dictionary, which he "communicateth to monsieur *Bochart*, the great minister at *Caen*, who came to see "us here in his passage to the national synod at *London*. Besides the said dictionary, "he is publishing a new description of *Æthiopia*, assuring, that what *Alvarez* and "others have done thereabout, are very imperfect pieces, leaving the most important "things behind; and not having well known that tongue, which this *Ludolf* under- "stands to perfection. He giveth me notice also, that at *Helmstad* is printing *de-* "*scriptio Malthæsi novæ, & antiquæ*, by the governor of the baron *de Blumethal*, son "of a minister of state to the elector of *Brandenburgh*. As also that one Dr. *Lut-* "*keman* hath published two treatises, one *de mundo intelligibili*, the other *de Paradiso* "*primi hominis habitaculo primo*." Thus far Mr. *Oldenburgh*. *Nov.* 29. he adds, "*Bill*'s *Narrative* I am putting into *French* for to communicate it to your meeting at "Mr. *Monmor*'s. I hear that the anatomists at *Padua* have used an invention, where- "by they have made a certain liquor to eat all what lieth about the inner parts of "man's body, and so have cleared the way to make an exact inspection of all what "may be considerable. But I doubt not this skill of *Bill*'s surpasseth all what hath "been hitherto found out for anatomical knowledge. Our *French* astronomers have "not yet given their judgment upon *Huygens*'s *Systema Saturni*. *Warnerus* hath been "my condiscipulus at *Bremen*, found always a very honest and studious man, and "a singular lover of the oriental tongues. As to the translation of *Grotius*, I could "wish, that the able translator thereof would please to add here and there as much "perspicuity and force as is possible; for I think the reasons of that author may re- "ceive an addition in both respects. From *Castres* one writeth me word, that there "is a book printed in *English*, *de arte volandi*; and that an *English* gentlewoman "living here at *Paris*, called Mrs. *Verger*, hath it in her cabinet, being a curious "and learned woman, which will occasion us to wait on her as soon as we can; "and shall in the mean time beg your favour of enquiring after the said book, if "you do not know it already. Though I have lately written at large to our noble "philosopher at *Oxford*, yet am I in doubt, whether I have given him thanks for "what he hath been pleased to procure for a friend of mine here out of the *Bod-* "*leian* library. Having delivered the same here, the person wondreth much, that

" *Pizibran de profeſſione fidei catholicæ & errorum revocatione*, printed *Moguntiæ* 1449, " ſhould not be in the ſame library, whereas he aſſureth me to have found it in " the catalogue thereof; as alſo the *oratio funebris Caroli Aretini habita à Leonhardo* " *Aretino*. Wherefore I muſt entreat you once more to requeſt Mr *Boyle*, that he " would pleaſe to make Mr. *Stubbs* look once more for the ſaid *Pizibran*, as alſo to " haſten the copy of the ſaid *Oratio funebris*, the pains whereof ſhall be fully recom- " penſed by me, God willing." Thus far Mr. *Oldenburgh*. Sir, I received lately, from an ancient friend, a water againſt the ſtone, which he ſent me out of *Norway*, out of his ſingular love. He ſpeaks thus of it. " I found this water, which here " I ſend you, very efficacious *in frangendo calculo renum & veſicæ ſæpe in utroque ſexu*, " both by high and low. *Uſus ejus talis eſt, ſumenda ſunt* 4. *vel* 5. *cochlearia hujus* " *aquæ manè & totidem veſperi. Inſigne levamen inde percipiet ægrotus accedente benedic-* " *tione divina*." Really, Sir, I muſt confeſs I have found it ſo, having uſed of the ſaid water near a quart. It is no ways nauſeous, but rather pleaſant. But having ſpent all, I heavily complained to the gentleman that brought it me, who ſaid, he had no convéniency to make it, confirmed the excellency of it, and was ſo kind as to give me the recipe of it, which here I offer into your hands, wiſhing, that Mr. *Stahl* would make a good quantity for yourſelf and the poor, and to let me alſo be partaker of it. Really, Sir, next to the ludus Helmontii, I have found it the beſt medicine. There is no truſting to *Clodius* for it. And beſides, they demand no leſs than ten ſhillings for a live hare, which is the chief ingredient in it. I underſtand it not ſo perfectly, being in *Low-Dutch*, as Mr. *Stahl*. Our public affairs grow worſe and worſe, there being no certain news yet, whether *Monck* will accept of the agreement or not. Mr. *Oldenburg* concludes his forenamed letter, " This very " evening *C. S.* is expected here, but his deſign kept very ſecret." My ſon is ſtill mighty confident of Dr. *Jones*'s work; and if the froſt had not delayed it, he is confident, they ſhould have had the univerſal medicine within three or four weeks. Thus, entreating you to accept of the adjoined paper (which alſo is a very noble undertaking) I reſt ever,

Honoured Sir,

your truly obliged and

devoted ſervant,

S. HARTLIB.

Honoured SIR, *November* 29, 1659.

LAST *Saturday* I acquainted you with ſeveral matters of ſpecial importance: I beg again your anſwer to ſome particulars, now I am to impart what Mr. *Figulus* writes, in anſwer to your deſires, as followeth. " Concerning Mr. *Warnerus*'s tranſ- " lation of the *Turkiſh* Bible, we are the next poſt to write to him upon monſieur " *de Geere*'s order, and with his letters joined, to ſend it over hither as ſoon as he " can. And then monſieur *de Geere* is reſolved to make no delay to have it printed. " As for the other queſtions the noble Mr. *Boyle* makes, what the intellectual abili- " ties of this *Warnerus* are to perform ſuch a work, you may pleaſe to believe ſo " much of his ſkill and experience, as I hear, both from monſieur *de Geere*, Mr. *Ru-* " *lice* the miniſter, and others, that he is a very learned and able man; and in the " *Arabic* and *Turkiſh*, as much verſed and perfect as any may be that ever hath " learned thoſe tongues. Beſides, *P. Golius*, and many others, who are able there " to judge of the work, he hath choſen for his cenſors, whereof *Golius* wrote an

" ample

" ample relation to his brother profeſſor at *Leyden* now of late. It rejoiced us much " to hear of the like forward intentions and labour of thoſe gentlemen in *England*, " to ſet out in *Arabic* the book of *Grotius*. Verily it may be of much uſe for thoſe " nations, it being ſhort, and very ſubſtantial. This makes monſieur *de Geere* to " long the more for the copy of the tranſlated Bible, to the advantage of the ſame " deſign; which God grant. But of *Warnerus*'s book, (wherein all the paſſages con- " cerning Chriſt are collected out of the Alcoran) no body knows: I have aſked " them all. Yet I will enquire amongſt the ſtationers of this town, and, if it be to " be had, I ſhall have it by the next occaſion of ſhipping. The other day I came " occaſionally to one, that makes all kind of letters, a great artiſt in it, an *High-* " *German*; and there I found an *Arminian* prieſt, with two other, and learned thus " much of them, that they have brought huge bills of exchange, to advance here, " in this town, the printing of their *Arminian* Bible. He that makes the letters, " ſhewed me all ſorts of their characters, which he hath made already; they are " very curious, and this work will likewiſe be advanced with all ſpeed. Thus we " ſee God works on all ſides towards ſome great change, and for the call of foreign- " ers into the church. O that *England* were at concord and union! they could more " help this deſign than any nation in the world, by aſſiſting the *Swedes*, and ſo to " diſſipate the kingdom of darkneſs and tyrannical power over conſciences. And " thus the courſe of the Goſpel would be ſet on a free foot." Thus far one of my honeſt correſpondents. Here you have a true repreſentation in print of the ſtate of the proteſtant churches in *Europe*. This is as ſad as the other promiſing. *Warnerus*'s book, which Mr. *Figulus* writes is ſcarce extant, Mr. *Pell* has had in his hands many years ago: but becauſe Sir *W. Boſwel* had many copies of them he would buy none, hoping that Sir *William* would have beſtowed one of them upon him, which he never did. Having written thus far, I received your laſt of *November* 26, and am amazed to underſtand, that you had not then received my large one of *November* 22, which I give to one *Petreus*, to give him an addreſs unto yourſelf. But I hope your next will bring me better news; as likewiſe of the receipt of that written on *Saturday*. The adjoined from Mr. *Jones* will give ſome account of *Breſſieux*'s engines, or machines. The lines which I ſent you formerly, out of Mr. *Oldenburg*'s letter, were theſe. " *Breſſieux* intended to begin his work, and deſireth to have ſome pieces of " good glaſs, clear and fine, which is known by this, that if put upon white paper, " the paper changeth little or nothing its colour ſeen thorow it. I believe, if you " could gratify him with this, he would anſwer your deſires, to ſend you ſome of " thoſe ſpherical glaſſes, ſerving in windows for a fair proſpect. He hath in a man- " ner ready ſeven machines, for both hyperbolical and ſpherical glaſſes; and he " carried us, ſince our laſt, to his lodging, for to ſee them; where he ſhewed us " three machines for concave hyperbolical, three others for convex hyperbolical, " and one more for to work the ſpherical glaſſes with more exactneſs than hitherto. " If ſome pieces of good glaſs could be ſent to him out of *England* to work upon, " (ſeeing he complaineth of the difficulty of getting good ſtuff, and that at *Venice* " they degenerate very much in that art,) it would, I believe, oblige him to permit " us ſometimes to look on his workmanſhip, which he is very ſhy to do. Thus I " have repeated again, what I have written formerly. I have told Mr. *Jones* alſo, " that this *Breſſieux* is the very workman that did work for *Des Cartes* for two whole " years; and therefore I would ſo willingly (if it might be) pleaſure him with the " beſt glaſſes that could be gotten in *England*." Mr. *Beale* anſwers to my begging thus. " I know, that bright cryſtal glaſs is glary; and to avoid that glarineſs, our " artificers run into the other extreme; but I know no workman, whom I can com-

" mend

" mend for your truſt, in a better choice. I have ſcattered *Bill*'s account in *Here-*
" *ford*, *Worceſter*, &c. Whatever I ſhall receive, or hear more of Sir *K. Digby*, ſhall
" be preſently yours. I hear very ſad news from Mr. *Poleman*; for he begins to
" deſpair of making his medicine, though he yet continues to try, what poſſibly he
" would, but could not, with all his ſkill and induſtry, make calx and ſpirit of wine
" join together." *Clodius* ſays, it may be the fault lies in the calx, which is made in the *Low Countries* of muſcles gathered on the ſea-ſhore. Yourſelf hath told me, that you had made that experiment ſucceſsfully. Theſe therefore are moſt humbly to entreat you, to favour Mr. *Poleman* with your directions which you have obſerved. I hope, Sir *Kenelm* hath written truth, and not rhodomontados. And I cannot have a more faithful, careful, and otherwiſe more knowing man, than Mr. *Poleman*, who, I am confident, doth love me as his own ſoul. One of the papers I ſent by way of requital to Mr. *Jones*. If he could get that experiment of making one great out of many little pearls, I ſhould count it a lucriferous ſecret. I pray put him alſo upon it, when you write to him next. I have called again upon my phyſical ſon for the *Dutch* books, and what he owes for them. His anſwer is, it ſhall be done, which I do not believe, I confeſs, till it be done. Dr. *Jones*'s work is going on again, and he is filled afreſh with very great expectations. His ſecret friend tells him, if the account of the particular operations, which he hath given him from time to time, be true, it will certainly yield both the univerſal medicine and the tincture: if it ſhould fail, I am aſſured from others, that *Macaria* is a real poſſeſſor of both theſe great bleſſings, but will own neither of them profeſſedly. But this only amongſt ourſelves. Lord *Lambert* writes good news, having ſent the agreement to general *Monck*, who ſeemed to receive it joyfully, giving order, that the forces ſhould preſently withdraw, *&c.* But for the final anſwer, he deſires to take ten days deliberation. Men conclude the news muſt be hopeful, becauſe Sir *H. Vane*, who was fully reſolved to go out of town, has altered his reſolution, appearing again at *White-hall*. Juſt now my ſon *Clodius* was with me, telling that Mr. *Dury* had ſpoken with him, relating out of your letter to your moſt noble ſiſter, that you hoped within three or four days to be at *London*. The like hopes Mr. *Evelyn* cheriſhes of your coming, who hath lately printed a book *of Education*. The copies are not yet abroad; but I am confident he will preſent you with one of them, no leſs than to him, who is not only in reſpect of books, but in all manner of other obſervances,

Honoured Sir,

your very faithfully devoted

S. HARTLIB.

LETTERS *from Sir* WILLIAM PETTY.

SIR,

MEN dedicate their books to the patrons of the ſubjects whereof they write, and I dedicate an uſeful and new invention to you, who, (ſcorning the airy vanities wherewith the greater part of men are as yet delighted) do not only profeſs yourſelf a *Mæcenas* of ſuch things, but can deſcend (or rather aſcend) to the practice of them yourſelf.

IT is not to tickle your fancy with a fine, curious, or intricate conceit or notion, nor to puzzle you with the ſight of a complexure of almoſt an infinite number of various machaniments cunningly ſet together, that I have preſented you this diſcovery; for I have always profeſſed to the whole world, that I feared, that only the meanneſs of

of the means, whereby I performed this unheard of effect, would make it contemptible.

NEITHER is it, that I think hereby to have given you a preſent of great value (as to yourſelf) for had you paid me but 5 *s.* you might (as well as others) within ſome few months have been partaker of the benefit; nor do I believe, that you uſe copying ſo much, as that in thoſe few months of concealment, it ſhould be worth you ten ſhillings more; only, if in matters of privacy it may ſave ſome hours of your own time, I ſhall think the world obliged to the invention.

IT is not to give you the means of ingratiating yourſelf with other great perſonages by the communication of this rarity unto them, before it come to vulgar hands; for you are pleaſed to promiſe upon your honour a deep and abſolute ſilence to all enquiries after it.

NEITHER is it to engage you to be earneſt in ſtirring up men to contribute towards my reward; for I conſider, that your fortune and dignity have placed you above the condition of ſoliciting merchants, ſcriveners, lawyers clerks, and ſuch other your inferiors, from whom I muſt expect my recompence.

LASTLY, I do not reveal this ſecret, becauſe I know not what elſe to do with it, nor (like thoſe, who give away their meat not before it ſtinks) employ it to buy your favour, when it will ſerve for nothing elſe: for now it is, that men begin to put off the apprehenſion of a cheat, and to hear generally of it, and conſequently, that the impoſſibility of raiſing ſome conſiderable benefit by it begins to diſappear.

BUT why then, ſince it is not in your way to do me much good in promoting the deſign of raiſing a reward, do I diſcover unto you the art itſelf, thereby giving you power to do me much more harm? It is only becauſe I hope hereby to oblige your noble and ingenuous ſpirit ſo much the faſter to continue your love and aſſiſtance to inventions, and other real fruits of learning and arts. For if the world embrace the uſe of this invention, you may, by God's ordinary providence, live to ſee a thing, whereof you have the very maidenhead and patronage, to be of daily and almoſt hourly uſe to moſt men in moſt countries of the whole earth, and that to perpetuity; and conſequently your own name made equally univerſal and known, although bright and glorious by your own better deſerving actions.

AND this is the reaſon, why I both dedicate and intruſt the invention unto you, a mere dedication unto real men (as yourſelf) being little better than a mere and that a begging compliment. There is yet another, why I have entruſted you with it, which is, becauſe I, having concredited unto you all my treaſure of this nature, may hope for ſome of your experiments to be entruſted unto me. For my ſtudy and ends being enquiries into nature, and uſeful arts, and finding how ill my abilities to make experiments anſwer my inclinations thereto, I knew no readier way to become fat in that kind of knowledge, than by being fed with the crumbs that fall from your table: which happineſs and honour if I may obtain, I ſhall labour to merit them, by the moſt ſerious and hearty endeavours within the power of me,

SIR, your moſt humble, and

Lond. June 21, 1648. affectionate ſervant,

WILLIAM PETTY.

SIR, *Dublin, April* 15, 1653.

BEING not able to write you any ſuch compliments as may delight you, nor to inform you of any ſuch more real matter as might profit you, I deſire, that thoſe my deficiencies, together with my uſual rudeneſs, may be taken for the cauſe

of this long ſilence. Now, indeed, I am forced to communicate with you, even to keep up the face of the viſible church of philoſophers; for, by Mr. *Worſley*'s going for *England*, and major *Morgan*'s abſence in the North, there is no ſuch thing now left at the head thereof. If there be any other reaſon of theſe lines, beſides this, and to beg my continuance in the number of your affectionate ſervants, it is to diſſuade you from ſome things, which my lord of *Corke*, my lord of *Brogkill*, and ſome other of your friends, think prejudicial unto you; one whereof is your continual reading. Here, like a quackſalver, I might tell you, how it weakens the brain, how that weakneſs cauſeth defluxions, and how thoſe defluxions hurt the lungs, and the like. But I had rather tell you, that although you read twelve hours *per diem*, or more, that you ſhall really profit by no more of what you read, than by what you remember; nor by what you remember, but by ſo much as you underſtand and digeſt; nor by that, but by ſo much as is new unto you, and pertinently ſet down. But in twelve hours, how little (according to theſe rules) can you, who know ſo much already, advantage yourſelf by this laborious way? How little of true hiſtory do our books contain? How ſhy is every man to publiſh any thing, either rare or uſeful? How few opinions do they deliver rationally deduced, but from their own principles? And laſtly, How few do begin their tedious ſyſtems from principles poſſible, intelligible, and eaſy to be admitted?

ON the other ſide, what a ſtock of experience have you already in moſt things? What a faculty have you, of making every thing you ſee an argument of ſome uſeful concluſion or other! How much are you practiſed in the method of clear and ſcientifical reaſoning! How well do you underſtand the true uſe and ſignification of words, whereby to regiſter and compute your own conceptions! So well are you accompliſhed in all theſe particulars, that I ſafely perſuade myſelf, but, that you modeſtly think every ſcribbler wiſer than yourſelf, that you can draw more knowledge and ſatisfaction from two hours of your own meditation, than from twelve hours endurance of other men's loquacity. For when you meditate, it is always upon ſomething that you are not yet clear in (and a little armour will ſerve, being put upon the right place.) But when you read, you muſt take the chance, and perhaps be corrupted with lies, diſguſted with abſurdities, and tired with impertinences, or made ready to vomit, at the *bis* (*imò centies*) *recoctа crambe* offered unto you. Beſides what a difference is there between walking with our natural legs and crutches! or between a cloth, whoſe ſubtegmen is the ſame from end to end, and another pieced up, out of a thouſand gaudy rags! But the proverb (*verbum ſapienti*) forbids me to be more tedious. The next diſeaſe you labour under, is, your apprehenſion of many diſeaſes, and a continual fear, that you are always inclining or falling into one or other. Here I might tell you, the vanity of life; or, that to fear any evil long, is more intolerable than the evil itſelf ſuffered, *&c.*

BUT I had rather put you in mind, that this diſtemper is incident to all that begin the ſtudy of diſeaſes. Now it is poſſible, that it hangs yet upon you, according to the opinion you may have of yourſelf, rather than according to the knowledge that others have of your greater maturity in the faculty. But *ad rem:* Few terrible diſeaſes have their pathognomonical ſigns; few know thoſe ſigns, without repeated experience of them, and that in others rather than themſelves. Moreover, the ſame inward cauſes produce different outward ſigns; and, *vice verſa*, the ſame outward ſigns may proceed from different inward cauſes; and therefore thoſe little rules of prognoſtication, found in our books, need not always be ſo religiouſly believed. Again, a thouſand accidents may prevent a growing diſeaſe itſelf, and as many can blow away any ſuſpicious ſign thereof; for the viciſſitude, whereunto all things are

ſubject,

ſubject, ſuffers nothing to reſt long in the ſame condition; and it being no farther from *Dublin* to *Corke*, than from *Corke* to *Dublin*, why may not a man as eaſily recover of a diſeaſe, without much care, as fall into it? My couſin *Highmore*'s curious hand hath ſhewn you ſo much of the fabric of man's body, that you cannot think but that ſo complete a piece as yourſelf will be always at ſome little fault or other. But you ought no more to take every ſuch little ſtruggling of nature for a ſign of a formidable diſeaſe, than to fear that every little cloud portends a cataract or hurricane. To conclude, this kind of vexation hath been much my portion; but experience, and theſe conſiderations, have well eaſed me of it.

THE laſt indictment that I bring againſt you, is, practiſing upon yourſelf with medicaments (though ſpecifics) not ſufficiently tried by thoſe that adminiſter or adviſe them.

IT is true, that there is a conceit current in the world, that a medicament may be phyſic and phyſician both, and may cure diſeaſes *à quacunque cauſâ*. But, for my part, I find the beſt medicament to be but a tool or inſtrument. Now what are *Vandyke*'s pencils and pallet, in the hands of a bungling painter, to the imitation of his pieces? Recommendations of medicaments do not make them uſeful to me, but do only excite me to make them ſo, by endeavouring experimentally to find out the virtues and application of them. There be few medicaments that can be more and more really praiſed, than diapalma and baſilicon; for they have been carried up and down in all ſurgeons ſalvatories, for theſe many hundred years: yet how few can perform any excellent cures by them, or ſuch others! How hard it is to find out the true virtues of medicaments! As I weep to conſider, ſo I dread to uſe them, without my utmoſt endeavours firſt employed to that purpoſe.

THOUGH none of theſe arguments prevail with you, yet I ſhall pray that nothing of evil conſequent to the things from which I have diſſuaded you, prevail upon you. The deſire of your encreaſe in knowledge, and (in order thereunto) of your health, hath made me thus troubleſome; for if what I have ſaid came from any other principle, I ſhould be aſhamed to write myſelf thus confidently,

SIR,

your obliged ſervant,

W. PETTY.

SIR, *Feb.* 17, 57.

WHAT you heard of my being ſecretary to his Excellency and clerk of the council, is too true; for I never lived a more miſerable life than now. I hope the meaning is, to try the ethics I diſcourſed of ſo at random in a former letter. I have not, amongſt all my intelligence, heard better news, than that the club is reſtored at *Oxford*. I hear likewiſe, that infuſio croci metal. has been injected into a live animal's blood, without any notable alteration. It were good to try the ſame with opiate liquors, and other of notable and ſenſible virtues. When I deſire the club to try theſe things, I do not excuſe myſelf; but would be glad they ſhould undertake it, that it might be thoroughly done. I received your commands (concerning a deſign, which colonel *Zankey* only appears in here, and in which only Mr. *James Rand* and Mr. *Eccleſton* are named) which I ſhall obey, upon your account; for, until you had written, I underſtood little of the thing; and therefore for me (who ought *non niſi pauca & benè cognita coram principibus loqui*) to appear much, before I had a better warrant, was not ſo ſuitable to my way. I had letters from Mr.

Hartlib not long before, but without any mention of this affair; nor could I guess, but by his superscribing your letter, that he had any hand in it. For it is possible, some plagiary might have made use of the paper, which nine years since I left with him comprehending this whole design; for I could not believe he would think me disaffected to what I formerly so much tendered. But I fear some enemy hath sown tares. However, as for what lies in me, I shall be industrious to get the allowance settled, and no less vigorous, that it be duly employed, both as to the main end, and to the encouragement of the best particular deservers; for the riches of one man (who drinks but as he hath brewed) shall not stir me against any public good, although, since I have been in this nation, I have studied those definitions of public, *&c.* and have observed the nature of their non-miraculous degenerations. Dear Sir, I wish I had the opportunity to make you understand the state of some things; till when, suspend your judgment of me. I think I can demonstrate the causes and necessity of the most malign action I am taxed with; wherefore I beg you to let me be (as we say, though but *de bene esse*) reckoned amongst your true and faithful servants, for such is

W. PETTY.

LETTERS from Mr. HENRY OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Oxford, April* 15, 1657.

THOUGH I am much obliged to you for the favour of your speedy dispatch hither of what came to your hands from *Ireland*, yet I am little beholding, I think, to the post, which hath been crawling rather than posting; yours being dated the 11th, which was on *Saturday*, not coming to me till this *Wednesday* night; whereas, if it had not stuck somewhere, it might very well have been here on *Monday*. But thanks to you, Sir, are not a whit the less for that and other testimonies of your goodness and affection towards me, which I can give no retribution for, unless you will please to accept of my real esteem of your deserts, and make use of my readiness to serve you with what my little power can compass.

THE non-resolution of the business written about by my lady *Ranelagh*, though it be somewhat uneasy to me, because I cannot well delight to be in a place, where people think me to stand in their way; yet do I purpose, if God will, to defer our remove till I receive one letter more from *Ireland*; and if that bring no resolution with it, after a whole winter's debate, I must, I think, take the liberty of choosing another place, where yet I shall have care, that your nephew may not more lose his time than he doth now here. Only his and my loss will then be, Sir, our absence from you, which I reckon a very great one, and should never choose, if the forementioned consideration did not compel me to it. Yet, before we part to a greater distance, it would trouble me exceedingly, if I should miss the advantage of conferring with you, Sir, about some things which are concernful to your nephew and me. Wherefore, lest we should fall at one and the same time upon a cross journey to and from *Oxford*, I beseech you you would give yourself so much trouble, as to acquaint me by a line or two with the time of your setting out again for *Oxford*; till the reception of which news he is very unwilling to stir, that is cordially,

SIR,

your obliged and very humble servant,

HENRY OLDENBURG.

Mr. *Jones* is your most humble servant.

SIR,

SIR, *Saumur, Sept.* 8, 1657. *ſt. n.*

I THINK myſelf obliged to you, that after the troubleſome journey you mention in your letter, you would give yourſelf the trouble of excuſing your ſilence to my former; though I confeſs I was glad to ſee it broken, and withal to find an intention in you of being larger, when your academical hurry ſhall be over. As for us here, we are, through the goodneſs of God, in perfect health; and your nephew having ſpent theſe two or three months, we have been here very well, and in more than ordinary diligence, I cannot but give him ſome relaxation in taking a view of this province of *Anjou*, during this time of vintage; which, though it be a very tempting one to a young appetite, yet ſhall, I hope, by a careful watchfulneſs, prove unprejudicial to his health. I am perſuaded, Sir, if you were here, and would pleaſe to make with us ſuch a little, but very pleaſant tour, as this is to my knowledge, who have made it heretofore, it would conduce very much to your health. But, I doubt, your deſire of knowing and of advancing knowledge, and the opportunities of doing that much better where you are than here (the way you take) will deprive us ſtill from the happineſs of enjoying your company here. Well, if the public do but thrive, we ought to bear private loſſes with patience. In the interim give me leave, Sir, to acquaint you with an obſervation I made the other day in reading a piece of *Thuanus*, which made me reflect upon your diſcourſe about the nature of poiſons, wherein, if I remember well, you ſeem to incline to the opinion, that the poiſon of vipers conſiſts rather in the rage wherewith they bite, than in any part of their body, which hath always a deadly poiſon in it; confirming it with inſtances from the madneſs of a dog making his teeth poiſonous, which before were not ſo; and from an enraged cock killing a man by a ſlight hurt. The author I named gives another inſtance, which, if true, may, in my opinion, juſtly claim a place among the reſt. He relateth (*Lib.* IV. *ad ann.* 1548.) that the *Scots* then beſieging a town, which he calls *Hadma*, taken from them by the *Engliſh*, and having both *French* and *Highlanders* in their army, one of the latter ſeeing the *French* fighting ſtoutly, and then ſtirred up to emulation, ſoon ruſhed into the thick of the enemy, ſallying out, and his fury laying hold on one of the *Engliſh* ſoldiers, threw him, being a luſty fellow, upon his ſhoulders, and running away with him into the camp of his general, was by the way ſo bit in his ſhoulder (he going half-naked) by the enraged teeth of the *Engliſhman*, that he failed very little, as the author ſaith, of being killed by that wound. The ſtory ſeems at leaſt as credible as that of the cock, unleſs you will ſay a cock can be chaffed to greater rage than an *Engliſh* ſoldier carried away by a naked *Scotſman* on his ſhoulders into the camp of the enemy. To this ſtory I ſhall add another, and then, Sir, end your trouble; but the author I had it from is not ſo authentic as famous Monſieur *de Thou*. It was an *Italian*, who told me but the other week, that pope *Urban* VIII. never did eat any pullets, or other tame fowl, but ſuch as had been fed and fattened by the fleſh of vipers; and that his long popedom was aſcribed (*humanitus loquendo*) to the virtue of ſuch food. The thing itſelf, I believe, Sir, you will think very credible, ſeeing men ordinarily enough eat broth wherein viper fleſh hath been boiled, for to fortify or recruit nature. I wiſh cordially you alſo may find means powerful to preſerve and ſtrengthen yours, for the good of the learned commonwealth; in which preſervation would be particularly involved much joy and advantage to him, who as long as he liveth deſireth to be,

SIR,

your faithful and humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

YOUR nephew and ſelf entreat your favour of preſenting our humble ſervices to all our noble and learned friends at *Oxford*.

SIR,

SIR,

YOURS from the 2d of *September* (received by us the laſt of the ſame) intimating, that you had not heard from us a very long while, obliged me ſoon after the receipt thereof to acquaint you, that we have taken the freedom to viſit you twice, by our letters in our journey from *London* to *Saumur*, and as often ſince we have been at *Saumur*; but been ſo unhappy, as never to hear from you but once before this, which we now humbly thank you for. I hope, ſince our letters have once found the way to and fro, they will not miſs hereafter; and I rejoice to hear you ſpeak of your indiſpoſition *in præterito*, adding my hearty wiſhes and prayers that the goodneſs of God would pleaſe to confirm your health, and to keep from you all ſickneſs in time to come, but that uſeful one, which, as you ſay, maketh men fond of charcoal and loam; with which I find none in this place to be troubled at all, having made ſo little ſtay in the other towns which we have paſſed through, that other occaſions did not permit me to make enquiry after the lovers of that knowledge. In making our tour hereafter, I flatter myſelf with the hopes of finding ſome ſuch at *Montpellier* and *Marſeilles*, and if I could meet with a *Peireſkius* in thoſe parts, or any where, that is not too far out of our way, I ſhould exceedingly rejoice. Making uſe here of an *Italian*, to teach your nephew ſomething of practical geometry and fortification, I found he had a way of writing to others very ſecretly, which, though he would not exchange with me for another, I have by your favour, yet he did it at laſt for that, which, as the lyric poet ſaith, *perrumpit omnia potentius ictu fulmineo.* And thinking you have it not this way, I did venture to ſend it here incloſed, being tried by me, and doing very well. It may be of great uſe amongſt others for beſieged towns, to encourage them with unſeen promiſe of ſuccours, unſuſpected by the beſiegers, the white characters being written over by black ones, of quite another ſenſe, which may be ſuch, as that the beſiegers, if the meſſenger ſhould fall into their hands, would not ſtop, but rather be glad to let paſs; which yet the beſieged will, by a water mentioned in the receipt, blot out and make appear what concerneth them and their relief.

I AM hugely pleaſed, that the council hath granted your deſires for the promotion of knowledge; which I ſuppoſe to be thoſe that were couched in a certain petition you were pleaſed to impart unto me at *Oxford*; wherein, if I remember well, a matter of twelve thouſand pounds ſterling was offered to purchaſe confiſcated lands and houſes with in *Ireland*, and to commit the profit thereof into the hands of certain truſtees, for to employ it in the entertainment of an agent, ſecretary, tranſlators, for keeping intelligence, diſtributing rewards, *&c.* in order to the end aforeſaid. I beſeech you, Sir, to favour me with acquainting me with the progreſs of this buſineſs, and, if it diſcommode you not too much, with what elſe occurreth notable in *England:* half a word, or a word uſed *per antiphraſin* (ſince you muſt uſe the pen of a ſervant) will be enough to make me underſtand your meaning, eſpecially if you ſhall pleaſe to add but a N. B. to ſuch matters, as you ſhall not think fit to ſpeak freely and plainly of to ſuch kind of perſons. Whereby you will very much increaſe your obligations upon,

SIR,

your moſt faithful
and humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

RE-

RECEIPT.

Prenez 1 *ou* 2 *onces de vinaigre diſtillé, & ½ once de lithargyron en pierre, & ayant pulveriſé ceſtuy-cy, mettez-le dans le vinaigre, & avec cela eſcrivez en lettres blanches tout ce que vous voudrez enſeigner ſecrettement à voſtre amy. Apres, bruſlez un morceau de liege* (cork) *juſques à ce qu'il ſoit tout charbonné & ne bruſle plus: alors eſteignez le avec un peu d'eau de vie. Mettez ce charbonné en poudre, & y ayant mis un peu d'eau de gumme, faitez en de l'encre, avec lequel vous eſcrirez tout un autre choſe ſur les predites lettres blanches. En fin, prenez* 1 *once d'orpiment, & l'ayant auſſi pulveriſé, mettez le avec* 2 *onces de la chaux vive, qui ſoit bonne & vigoreuſe, & apres mettez les enſemble dans une phiole de verre ou d'eſtain, tenant une chopine* (an Engliſh pint) *& l'ayant remplie de l'eau commune, agitez le par ¼ d'heure: & ceſt eau ſervira à merveille pour effacer les lettres eſcrites de l'encre, & pour faire apparoiſtre à votre amy tout ce que vous aures eſcrit en lettres blanches.*

Samur, March 29, 1658.

* * * * your nephew having alſo waited on you ſince with another letter, and being, together with myſelf, extremely coveting to receive ſome good news of your health and welfare; which, if you ſhall pleaſe to gratify us with, we entreat you to ſend it only, as formerly, to Mr. *Hartlib*, who hath order to direct henceforth thoſe letters that concern us to *Geneva*; where I have a friend that will not fail to diſpatch them to me, whereſoever I ſhall be in *Germany*, which, I think, will be the country for our ſummer ſtation, becauſe likely to be the theatre, as of a great ſolemnity, ſo of other conſiderable tranſactions. But no appearance, I think, to make afterwards an excurſion into *Italy*, and thence to bring you news of the induſtrious *Kircher*'s ſubterraneous world, his ſtrange *grotta de' ſerpi*, his ſtory of the growth of pulveriſed and ſown cockles, irrigated by ſea-water; his thermometer by a wild oat's-beard; his vegetable phœnix's reſurrection out of its own duſt by the warmth of the ſun; his pretended ocular confutation of *Kepler*'s magnetical motions of the planets about the ſun; and of *Gilbert*'s magnetical motion of the earth, and of twenty other remarkable things one might yet have the ſatisfaction to be punctually informed about, if our friends did not think to have reaſon to diſſuade us from that voyage, wherein we ought to acquieſce, if they ſtill judge them important enough to hinder it. In the interim, what particular enquiries you think in *Germany* may be made of us about philoſophical experiments, I entreat you be pleaſed to give in your next a hint at: and, to conclude, do not think it a trouble to advertiſe us, what ſucceſs that promotion of learning hath, for which the council did formerly grant your deſires, if he miſtake not, who is,

SIR,

your obliged, and
very humble ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Paris, May* 17, 1659.

AS I find the favour of the good opinion you are pleaſed to have of me, as upon other occaſions, ſo in the late addreſs of Mr. *Robert Southwell*, to my advice in order to his travels, very advantageous to me; ſo I doubt very much of my capacity in anſwering the ſame as it deſerveth: yet wherein I come ſhort here, I ſhall, by the aſſiſtance of God, ſtudy to make up by a ready faithfulneſs to aſſiſt and ſerve him, in whatſoever I can. I find this perſon very ingenious, and well inclined, apt to make

make good uſe of travelling; but yet, for ſome conſiderations, do doubt very much whether one may adviſe him to go into *Italy* thus alone, as he hath no ordinary deſire to do. It is a very peſtiferous climate, and vice hath a fermenting quality; unleſs a man be well antidoted and armed, he will hardly eſcape ſound and uninfected from thence. Wherefore I am alſo apt to believe, that my lord *Dungarvan*'s friends will very well conſider, before they counſel or permit him to make that voyage. You know, Sir, how few there are, that in the ſtrength of him, in whom we can do all, take up a reſolution againſt vice, and the ſatisfaction of their ſenſes; as alſo, how few there be of ſuch guides, that are ſolicitous and watchful to warn thoſe whom they guide, againſt thoſe moral dangers, which every where, though in ſome places more than in others, do attend us.

I HOPE, Sir, my letter from the 21ſt of *April*, that did acknowledge your bounty, and gave you ſome account of what you demanded, is come to your hands. I have ſince received from a gentleman, that liveth in the extremities of *Languedoc*, on the ſhore of the *Mediterranean*, the receipt of an oil, which he told us, when we viſited him, had done great cures. Methinks the ground of it anſwereth your *Ens Veneris*. I thought myſelf obliged to impart it unto you, and to deſire you to examine it, whether it is capable to produce ſuch effects as the ſaid perſon (who found it in ſeeking after, and working for *Butler*'s ſtone, according as Mr. *V. Helmont* hath written thereof) did relate unto us, which are, the curing of megrims, palſies, lameneſſes, crookedneſſes, and all ricketing diſeaſes. I ſend it juſt as the author ſent it me, without decyphering his characters, as knowing you need no ſuch thing. I add hereunto ſome few ſeeds of the ſenſitive plant, which I was preſented with here, and you may try how they will ſpeed at *Oxford*; as alſo ſome grains of bama muſcata, which come from the iſles of St. *Chriſtofle*, growing upon a tree of three or four feet high, bearing yellow flowers, which the negroes uſe in their potage, juſt as the *Engliſh* do marigold-flowers. He that gave them me ſaid, that having put ſome of theſe grains into good ſpirit of wine, and left them there infuſed three or four days upon ſome little warmth, till the ſpirit had drawn the ſcent thereof, he had taken out the grains, calcined them, and drawn a ſalt from them, which being infuſed into *l'eau de vie foible*, and having poured upon it ſome of the former ſpirit, endowed with the ſcent of them, had made him urine much: inſomuch, that he hath a belief theſe grains duly prepared may prove good for the gravel: if you view the figure of them well, you will find it like to that of the reins. I had ſome other things in my thoughts to extend this letter with, but company comes in, and obligeth me to free you from further trouble. Only be pleaſed to receive the aſſurance, that I am,

SIR,

your moſt humble,
and obliged ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

Oleum Vitriolinum.

℞ *Vitriolum melioris notæ. Hoc deſtilla eo quo decet modo magnus V. Helmont. Deſtillati ☉ calcina ut, ibidem dictum. Calcinatum mijce cum ana ✶ & ♎ bis aut ter. Habebis ſublimatum rubicundiſſimum in frigido ſolubile in oleum pretioſum, cujus aliquot guttulæ aliquamdiu cum oleo communi maceratæ, illud colore rubicundiſſimo tingunt. Quod hoc modo debite præparatum eadem, quæ multoties expertus ſum, & vobis narravi, effecta præſtabit, ſi Deo omnis boni largitori placuerit.*

SIR, *Paris, March* 20, 1660.

AS I am much obliged to you for your liberality of preſenting me with thoſe two deſired treatiſes of plants and manners, and of ſending them to my lady *Ranelagh* for me, ſo I am altogether aſſured of her ladyſhip's care in tranſmitting you hither, if a good occaſion had preſented itſelf ere this. The explication of the *Arabic* inſcription was very welcome to thoſe concerned therein, and they return, together with myſelf, their humble thanks for it, and tell me, that it agreeth with the ſenſe of what a *Frenchman*, moſt ſkilful in the oriental tongues, hath ſaid of it; which confirmeth very much the owner of the jaſper in the interpretation of Mr. *Pocock*, and derogateth nothing from the eſteem he is in. Sir *K. Digby* will himſelf aſſure you, by the annexed, of his reſpects to you. We met lately at the houſe of a chemiſt, where the queſtion was agitated about the diſſolvent of gold, whether the univerſal ſpirit of the world in its undetermined nature, or as it is ſpecified and contracted to a mineral, be the menſtruum of that noble metal? The diſcuſſion hereof being rather made by authority than reaſon, gave ſmall ſatisfaction to the auditors; whereof the learned knight being the chief, did moderate the action, but not determine the queſtion; interlacing the diſcourſes of others with the ſeveral conſiderable relations, whereof two did raviſh the hearers to admiration. The one was of a king's houſe in *England*, which having ſtood covered with lead for five or ſix ages, and being ſold after that time, was found to contain $\frac{3}{4}$ of ſilver in the lead thereof. The other was of a fixed ſalt, drawn out of a certain potter's earth here in *France*, at a place called *Arcueil*; which ſalt being for ſome time expoſed to the ſun-beams, became ſaltpetre, then vitriol, then lead, tin, copper, ſilver, and, at the end of fourteen months, gold; which he aſſured to have experienced himſelf, and another able naturaliſt beſides him. I muſt confeſs, I had rather ſee this than believe it, though the author be a very authentic gentleman.

THE name of the *Carteſian* author, that hath written of the cauſe of purgation, is one monſieur *Nicholas Lienard:* the treatiſe is a very ſmall one in *French*, containing but twenty leaves in quarto; which yet is too big to be ſent by the poſt, or elſe you ſhould not be long without it. I am confident your experiments about this purging virtue of medicines will prove more convincing, than his ratiocinations, though they be very plain and intelligible, yet not unmixed with ſome juvenile ſcholarſhip.

I CAN learn nothing of any new books, treating of the *Epicurean* or *Carteſian* principles; and I am perſuaded, that if there be any new ones come lately abroad, the news thereof will ſooner come from *Holland* than theſe parts. We long much, Sir, to ſee your epiſtle, which giveth an account of certain experiments made about a pneumatical engine; but I doubt we ſhall not ſee it, till we have the happineſs to ſee you; which is much wiſhed for by,

SIR,

your faithful and
very humble ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, June* 10, 1663.

I COULD not forbear by this occaſion to give you notice of ſome particulars, imparted to me ſince your leaving *London*, eſpecially ſuch, wherein yourſelf and the other *Engliſh* virtuoſi are concerned. My correſpondent in his laſt from *Paris* ſaith, with a great deal of frankneſs: *Il faut avoüer, que les Anglois l'emportent, & ont l'avantage par deſſus les autres peuples de l'Europe, nous ayans donné quantité de choſes curieuſes*

particulieres, outre les grands ouvrages, qu'ils ont donné au public. Au contraire, les livres, qui s'inpriment à Paris, ne meritent pas d'eſtre leus, au moins la plus part, ny ayant que des redites ou des allegations; mais rien de particulier, qui contente l'eſprit. Then he paſſeth on to a gentleman, called Mr. *Boyle*, and ſaith; *On l'admire plus que jamais, & monſieur Ozou* (that is, one of the conſiderableſt members of the *Monmorian* academy, and a very mathematical head) *à une eſtime tres particuliere pour luy. Le meſme eſt grand admirateur de voſtre ſocieté, & ne ſe peut laſſer de loüer le genie des Anglois, pour avoir fait grande quantité de belles choſes. Nous ſerions bien aiſes de ſçavoir, ſi on continue dans le meſme curioſité.* In the end of his letter he mentions, that he hopeth to get the obſervations made by *Borelli* upon your *Chemiſta Scepticus*, which being obtained, he promiſeth to ſend me ſpeedily.

THIS afternoon we had no ordinary meeting: there were no leſs than four ſtrangers, two *French*, and two *Dutch* gentlemen; the *French* were, monſieur *de Sorbiere*, and monſieur *Monconis*; the *Dutch*, both the *Zulichems*, father and ſon: all four inquiſitive after you. They were entertained firſt with ſome experiments, which the bearer hereof will give you a good account of; and afterwards with good ſtore of occaſional obſervations, diſcourſed of promiſcuouſly, *pro re nata*; which the ſtrangers (as well as our company) ſeemed to be much more pleaſed with, than with ſet and formal diſcourſes: they were, 1. Of various petrifications, even of children in the womb; item in the lungs, in the plexus choroides, and in all the parts of human bodies. 2. Of perſons altogether moveleſs, but that they could ſpeak, and eat and drink; whereof one was alledged by Sir *R. Moray*, ſeen by himſelf at the *Spaw*; out of whoſe fingers, and cheeks alſo, he had obſerved a chalky matter to iſſue. Another was mentioned by Mr. *Beale*, in a letter to me, of his own kinſwoman, that lived ſome years as unmoveable as a ſtone, unable to move finger or toe; yet her mouth ſhe could move, and had a good ſtomach, and was recovered at laſt by baths. I doubt, Sir, here is matter for an occaſional meditation.

NEXT, there were very odd relations made of women voiding bones, together with their menſtrua, every month; of others bringing away bones of children (they had been ſeveral years before big of) by ſiege, or out of their ſides.

THEN there was occaſion given, by a petition made to the king, for a patent to practiſe a ſecret for the improving of any barren ground, and of flowers, plants and young trees, and among them, of vines and orange-trees, to make thoſe grow as plentifully as in *France*, and theſe, as in *Portugal*: by this, I ſay, occaſion was given to ſpeak of the ſmutting of corn, with the deſcription of it; its differences from other vices in corn; with the conjectures of the cauſe of it, and the probable means to avoid it. Concerning all which, Mr. *Long* brought in a handſome diſcourſe, which I have by me for your ſervice, when you pleaſe.

MUCH alſo was ſpoken of the advantage of ſowing corn with the huſks, and of planting fruit-ſtones with ſome pulp about them.

MONSIEUR *Monconis* was ſo obliging, upon the ſociety's deſire, to leave them in writing his way of knowing the difference of the weight of liquors; as alſo the manner of ordering ſilkworms in *France* and *Italy*, where are contained ſome very pretty and not obvious obſervations.

BUT, Sir, I forget to whom I write, and by whom. I ſhould have told you ſome news, and I would write more, but that I have written too much. Yet this I muſt add, that the treaty with *Rome* advanceth not; that the conſiderabler ſort of *French* proteſtants are tempted to apoſtacy; that *Spain* hath had ſome ſucceſs upon *Portugal*; and that *Sweden* is grown jealous of *France*, becauſe of the *French* kindneſs to, and alliance with *Denmark*.

IT

IT is after midnight, Sir, that I write this; which will, I hope, the more prevail with you to pardon this undigested scribble to,

SIR,

your faithful humble servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SEEING the abovementioned strangers are like to continue here yet a while, at the least some of them, the society shall much stand in need of a curator of experiments; which, I hope, Sir, will the sooner procure from your obligingness a dispensing with Mr. *Hook* for such a public use.

SIR, *London, June* 22, 1663.

YOUR receipt for monsieur *Monconis* came, after he had taken his leave from us; but I shall not fail, God permitting, to send it after him by the first conveniency. On *Wednesday* last there were admitted into the society my lord *Craufurd Lindsey*, messieurs *Huygens* and *Sorbiere*. An experiment was tried in the compressing engine, but again without success; the force of the air, thrust in, breaking the cement that fastened the glass. In the experiment of the precedent meeting (whereof, no doubt, you had an account from Mr. *Hook*) the air, put into the place of the bubble, remaining in one bolthead, was vanished, as well as the bubble that was left in the other bolthead. After this petrifications were again discoursed of, and the colours of insects: there were also a couple of letters read, sent to me, one from *de la Quintinye*, containing a farther account of melons; the other from Mr. *Beale*, relating his observations of the smut of corn. I had a third letter from *Paris*, written by the same gentleman, that is the author of the discourse *de calore*, and hath so particular an esteem for you, as I mentioned formerly. He tells me now, that the king of *France* hath bestowed a largesse of eighty thousand livres upon several learned men, but most poets and romancers, except *Huygenius* and *Hevelius*, and *la Chambre*, having neglected *Roberval*, *Fermat*, *Frenicle*, *Robault*, *Ozou*, and such like, *qui colunt musas severiores*.

THIS friend sheweth himself so much concerned for you, that he writeth thus: *Il faut plus attendre de monsieur Boyle, à mon advis, que de tous les autres ensemble: c'est pourquoy je suis fort affligé de ce qui le menace. Exhortez le puissamnent à avoir soin de sa santé: je suis persuadé, que s'il s'y applique, il fortifiera sa constitution, & se garentira d'une maladie lente. Un de mes amis, avec qui je plaignois ce malheur, m'a assuré, qu'un seigneur Anglois, menacé de mesme, fut conseillé de passer en France, ou l'air seul reştablit si bien sa santé apres quelque sejour, qu'il retourna en Angleterre, sans qu'il retombat de sa vie en aucun peril de sa premiere maladie. Proposez luy la chose: il pourra philosopher par tout, & faire provision de santé pour philosopher plus long temps.*

You see, Sir, his kindness for the advantage of your health, though such absence would turn to the disadvantage of your friends here, *pro tempore*.

HE prayeth me to entreat you to communicate unto him, if it may be, the way which Dr. *Willis* mentions in his treatise *de Fermentatione*, p. 64. (supposing your curiosity hath prompted you to get it from the said author) *viz.* to draw without any corrosive, *solo calore lento*, the tinctures of bodies with all their virtue. I dare engage for him, as well as for myself, that it shall remain a secret, if it be one.

THERE is going for *France* a friend of mine, by whom I could send a good packet with safety; if you should think fit to present monsieur *Thevenot*, the author of the late voyages in *French*, with one of your books, of the Usefulness of natural philosophy, he understanding *English* pretty well; I intend also, God willing, to send him

one of your *Latin* reply to *Linus*, and another to monſieur *Martel*, the writer of the forementioned diſcourſe of heat. For this cauſe have I taken two or three exemplars of this latter piece from Mr. *Crook*, ſuppoſing your leave to do ſo, that I might not neglect ſo fair an opportunity of ſending, as is now offered to,

SIR,

your very humble
and faithful ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

THE friend that is going for *France*, purpoſeth to go on *Friday* next.

SIR, *London*, *July* 2, 1663.

THOUGH I hope this will meet you on your way *London*-wards, the eight or ten days which you allowed yourſelf in your letter for the reſidue of your ſtay at *Lees* being now elapſed; yet the mixture of my fear, leſt the influence of that conſtellation you then named ſhould arreſt you longer where you are, I would try whether the operation of the ſtars (ſince they are held but to incline) might not be diverted by the power of a Royal Society, who are now freſhly ſet upon it, to give their royal founder and patron a philoſophical entertainment, as ſoon as poſſibly they can make one ready fit for him. In order to which, their council have ſet apart an extraordinary day, which is *Monday* next, the 6th of *July*, to agree upon the experiments and diſcourſes proper for his majeſty's reception: at which meeting they will be very glad to have your preſence and contributions, as highly valuable to this purpoſe.

THE book of the Uſefulneſs of experimental philoſophy was preſented according to your deſires, and received with applauſe and thanks, but to be returned, not to an anonymous, but to Mr. *Boyle*, whom I alſo entreat to accept of my humble thanks for the preſent of one of the books to me. I have let my friend paſs to *Paris* without an exemplar thereof to Mr. *Thevenot*, upon the conſideration ſuggeſted in your letter.

WHAT was done yeſterday at our meeting, I ſuppoſe Mr. *Hook* giveth you an account of by this ſame carrier. The ſurpriſing victory of the *Portugals* is ſo great, that the king of *Spain* acknowledgeth, in a letter written by his own hand to the queen-mother of *France*, that his army of 18,000 men is reduced to 6,000. This will give a *tanto de naſo* to his holineſs, whoſe heart did ſo ſwell upon the ſucceſs of the *Spaniards* in the taking of *Evora*, that he diſpatched away new orders to *Raſponi*, which did ſo diſguſt the *French*, that the treaty thereupon is broke off *pro tempore*, which certainly cannot be reſumed but with great diſadvantage to the pope, who now runs the hazard of ſeeing a patriarch ſet up not only in *Portugal*, in caſe he refuſe any longer to confirm their biſhops, but alſo in *France*; which if it happen, I ſhall then look upon the pope as little better than the king of *Spain*'s chaplain.

AND I will let any conſcientious man judge, whether he deſerveth not to be covered with confuſion, who offers, as the pope doth, (if my information be true) *charta blanca* to all thoſe that will only agree, 1. not to diſpute his ſuperiority; 2. not to give ſcandal, leaving you for the reſt to believe and do what they liſt. If the chriſtian church had no other head but ſuch an one, who would be a Chriſtian? Certainly not he, that is,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,
H. O.

LE

IF peradventure the ſtars ſhould prove ſo powerful, as to keep you beyond the mentioned time, the council will take it extreme kindly, to receive your ſymbolum of experiments in writing as ſpeedily as may be, ſince they would go about the trial of them immediately.

SIR, *London, Aug.* 25, 1664.

I AM forced to begin this letter with complaining about the retardment of the work of the preſs, for want of thoſe *Latin* ſheets I looked for by the return of the coach that carried you to *Oxford*. If they ſhould be loſt, I know not how that loſs could be well repaired; and the printer is already impatient for ſtopping his preſs, which attendeth this book. I hope, Sir, you will take all poſſible care to ſilence theſe clamours, and to direct me what to do in this caſe, eſpecially if the papers ſhould not be found.

WE have conſiderable news here from *Holland*, *viz.* that they have made very ill uſe of the king's engaging himſelf to their embaſſador, that he would attempt nothing upon their *Eaſt India* fleet, ſeeing they have ſent order to *Van Trump*, whom they had diſpatched with fifteen frigates to ſafeguard home the ſaid fleet, that they being ſecured by his majeſty's parole of the ſafety of the fleet, he ſhould quit you and paſs to *Guinea*, and ſeek his advantage there againſt the *Engliſh*. This action hath ſo exaſperated the court, that it is thought a war cannot now be avoided. In the mean time, there are eighteen ſhips of ours, partly ready, partly making ready to go for *Guinea*, and there to maintain the *Engliſh* intereſt. The plague increaſeth ſtill in *Holland*, there dying the laſt week about a whole thouſand, whereof there were not above 150 that died of other diſeaſes. This maketh them, it ſeems, more reſolute for a war, ſeeing they have no trade, and ſo think themſelves fit for nothing but fighting. What they will do with all theſe *Eaſt Indian* commodities, and other wares, that lie in abundance upon their hands, ſince they are almoſt excluded from all ports, I cannot imagine.

IT is confirmed from thence, that there is a company in *Holland* that have great hopes to paſs into *China* and *Cataya* by the North, and that they earneſtly demand an octroy for it. What paſſage this ſhould be, differing from that which was attempted at the latter end of the laſt age by three ſhips that endured incredible hardſhips, I have not ſkill enough to gueſs.

FROM *Paris* my correſpondent diſcourſeth thus: *Par voſtre procedé on voit bien, que vous voulez la guerre, en refuſant de rendre Cabo Verde, qui a eſté pris ſans juſtice. Les plaintes, que fait Downing à la Haye, ſont imaginaires & ſans fondement, ce que fait croire à tout le monde, qu'il en faut venir à la derniere extremité. Sans la peſte on ne vous craindroit point, & ſi on vouloit ager comme il faut, on vois donneroit bien des affaires & bien de l'occupation. On ſouhaite icy, ſi la paix ne ſe fait pas, que les Hollandois ſoyent victorieux, n'eſtans pas ſi criminels, comme on les fait en Angleterre. Ils ont voulu rendre l'iſle de Poleron à vos gens, qui n'en ont point voulu, parce qu'ils n'avoient point d'hommes pour le garder. Meſſieurs les eſtats ont montré à Downing leurs cahiers de plaintes, qui ſont mieux fondées, que les voſtres aſſurent. Ne vous eſtonnez pas de ce que je vous dis, eſtans tous Hollandois icy.*

UPON this I have ſuggeſted to this gentleman, that I doubted very much whether the *Hollanders* were as good *French* as they are *Dutch*, remitting him to his former letter, wherein he intimated, that upon the death of the king of *Spain* (who by the laſt poſt was agoniſing again) the king of *France* would do his utmoſt endeavours to poſſeſs himſelf of *Flanders* and *Brabant*, or at leaſt to enable *Antwerp* to regain their old

old trade by opening the *Schelde*, which muſt needs ruin *Amſterdam* in a ſhort time, and cannot but beget at the preſent great jealouſies in the United Provinces of the king of *France*.

I SHALL ſay little of the victory againſt the *Turks*, it being ſo notorious, though not ſo great as it was made in the beginning. I ſhall only give this touch that comes from *Paris*, concerning the ſenſe that *France* hath of the importance of what they did in that action, *viz. nos François* (ſaith the letter) *paſſent pour les reſtaurateurs de l'empire, & veritablement ils on fait tout ce qui ſe pouvoit faire.*

FROM *Amſterdam* they write me word, that *Kircher*'s *mundus ſubterraneus* is advanced unto Lib. XII. and will be finiſhed within ſix weeks. There lie ready ſeveral books for me at *Paris*, and amongſt them ſome anſwer to *Paſcal*'s little book; but for want of a conveniency of ſending them ſafely, I muſt want them ſtill.

WE had yeſterday a terrible ſtory read at *Greſham*, ſent out of *Italy* by Dr. *Pope*, of a moſt dreadful tempeſt of thunder, lightning, rain, and hail, the like had not been in thoſe parts in the memory of the living. The hail was ſome of it as big as a tennis-ball, ſome as a turkey egg, both for bigneſs and ſhape, ſtriking in eight ſeveral parts thorough the top of the coach, wherein Dr. *Pope* and his company were travelling about *Padua*, and bruiſing ſome of the travellers, and beating others black and blue, as if they had been ſoundly cudgelled. The horſes were ſo ſcared, that they broke looſe and run away; one of the horſes of another coach running into a river, and being drowned there. In ſum, the ſtory was thought ſo remarkable, that it was ordered to be kept upon our records.

HAVING found the top of *Paul*'s ſteeple a convenient place for ſome experiments, order was given yeſterday to try there the deſcent of falling bodies, the *Torricellian* experiment, and the vibrations of a pendulum of the length of the top to the floor of the church: the perpendicular height is about two hundred feet. Order was alſo given, that an inſtrument ſhould be made for diſcovering a ſecond of time by a ſun-dial or the ſtars, which was looked upon as very conducive to the ſtating of an univerſal meaſure, though it was alſo judged very requiſite thereunto, to have a certain way to meaſure the preſent temperature of the air.

THE engine for meaſuring refractions was well examined, and at laſt approved of; with which many good experiments will now be made.

THERE was read a paper brought in by Mr. *Packer* concerning mine-damps, which will admit of no more but two kinds of them, which are called fire-damps, and earth-damps, alledging, that that kind which they call the water-damp, is nothing elſe but a vapour that in ſome wet-damps will lie upon the water, even as a miſt eſpecially follows the rivers. He affirms, that the earth-damp is a vapour not at all viſible, though this kind be the moſt dangerous and deſtructive, it being far ſharper and of longer continuance commonly than the other. He adds a particular ſomewhat ſtrange, *viz.* that a workman aſſured him, that he being at *Chevin* coal-pits, and the damp being in the work, they hung a fire, as they uſe to do to get the damp out of the earth in the pit's mouth, which was made of at leaſt a horſe load of coals, burning very fiercely; and notwithſtanding, when it had drawn the damp up the ſhaft or pit, the fire was quite extinguiſhed, and put out as dead, as if caſt into a river; and being kindled two or three times again, was ſtruck out, though no vapour or fume at all appeared that could be called the damp, but the ſmoke of the fire only. He concludeth with the fire-damp, and ſaith, that when that is ſeen, it is like the ſmelting miln-ſmoke, and ſometimes it is ſo much that it fills the whole work, at other times it is reduced to a little compaſs, and gets into the corner of the grove, and may lie there for ſome years, if not ſtirred into; and in other places the workmen

workmen may do their work and not at all ſuſpect it, though working in the ſame grove: it may lie (ſaith he) in the compaſs of a diſh; but if it happen to be touched by the workmen unawares, may deſtroy their lives, which it doth, (ſo he goeth on) by cauſing them to be ſo weak, that they are not able to aſcend the pit, and if not timely prevented, ſtriketh to the heart, and then there is little or no cure.

SIR, if you are not yet tired, I ſhall go on to tell you, that upon the ſuggeſtion of monſieur *Zulichem*, to try the vibrations of hard bodies ſounding, it was moved by Sir *R. Moray* to make, inſtead of a bell, a flat round plate of bell metal, with a hole drilled in the middle, through which a cord may be drawn to hang it by; as alſo to have ſeveral of theſe round plates made of differing ſizes, to ſee what difference of ſounds they would produce, their edges being ſtruck upon.

MR. *Wylde* being preſent at the Society, promiſed them not only to ſhew them the experiment of ſoftening ſteel without fire, and hardening it again, but alſo of the receipt how to do it; which the company was very well pleaſed with.

MR. *Howard* affirms to have the way of fixing log-wood, and offers to ſhew the Society an experiment of it; and it was committed to him, yourſelf, and Dr. *Merret*, to conſider of a way of fixing all ſorts of colours, which they hope you will do your ſhare in.

ON *Friday* laſt our committee for correſpondence met the firſt time at Mr. *Povey's*, where we were ſorry to be without you, and without your queries for *Guinea*. In the mean time general enquiries were drawn up, ſerving for all the parts of the world; and authors were diſtributed amongſt the members of this committee, to be peruſed for the collecting thence particular enquiries for particular countries. This was our entertainment above ground: I leave you to gueſs what our correſpondence and entertainment was under ground in the grotto, and near the well, that is, the conſervatory of ſo many dozen of wine bottles of all kinds.

BUT I muſt now eaſe you, after I have intreated your favour to enquire of Dr. *Wallis*, with my humble ſervice to him, whether he hath received that packet of Mr. *Horrox*'s letters, I did, by order of the Society, ſend to him for his peruſal, by the *Oxford* coach, *Auguſt* 13. You will pardon this trouble to,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, give me leave to entreat you, that in caſe you ſhould meet with any curious perſons that would be willing to receive weekly intelligence, both of ſtate and literary news, you would do me the favour of engaging them to me for it. The expences cannot be conſiderable to perſons that have but a mediocrity; 10*l.* a year will be the moſt that will be expected; 8 or 6*l.* will alſo do the buſineſs.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 1, 1664.

A *THURSDAY* laſt I ſent my letter to wait on you at *Oxford*, and to receive your commands for the ordering of the preſs about the *Latin* tranſlation; but I have not heard a word upon it, and thereby am left in much perplexity what to do with the printer.

BEFORE I communicate philoſophical matters, I muſt let you know what comes juſt now to me of ſtate-affairs, *viz.* that prince *Rupert* is declared general for *Guinea*, to command a fleet of twenty ſh ips almoſt ready to go thither, and to do what

execution he can upon the *Dutch* there; which is a plain beginning of the war. The *Dutch* are likewiſe diſpatching thither what ſtrength conveniently they can, to maintain what right they think they have there. They judge themſelves at the preſent, conſidering the rage of the contagion amongſt them, by which they are beat out of trade, fitteſt to go to war; and in all appearance they are like to have enough of it. We are about to forbid them all commerce with *England*, as *France*, *Italy*, *Scotland*, &c. have done already; whereby all their commodities will lie upon their hands, eſpecially thoſe that came lately home from the *Eaſt Indies*; which hath occaſioned the *Eaſt India* company here to ſell their commodities, returned from thoſe parts, at an extraordinary rate, they having ſold within theſe three days for about four hundred thouſand pounds ſterling of wares, and, as I am informed, ſome of them at fifty *per cent.* gain.

THE news from *Amſterdam* holds that ſome merchants there have found a north-eaſt paſſage to *Cataya* and *China*; but we are here ſo dull, that we cannot imagine how they will or can make their way thither in that climate, unleſs they have found the ſea, by reaſon of its vaſtneſs, open beyond *Nova Zembla*, which perhaps continuing ſo for a great ſpace eaſtward, and ſo down again ſouthward, may bring them to their journey's end, which time will diſcover.

HIS majeſty intends to begin his progreſs next week, and expects to hear news of prince *Rupert*'s expedition at his return, and accordingly reſolve farther upon the war.

THE *French* letters ſay this to me; *Le roy d'Eſpagne eſt tousjour fort, incommodé, & ne peut vivre que fort peu de temps. Marcin a en levé deux regimens François aux Portugais. Le roy prend fort à cœur ſes pretenſions ſur la Flandre, qu'on ne laiſſera jamais à l'Empereur, & non obſtant qu'on lui l'a donnée par ſon contract de mariage, il aura de la peine à s'en mettre en poſſeſſion, ou au moins à en jouer paiſiblement. Le roy à plus de paſſion que jamais pour l'eſtabliſſement de la compaigne des Indes orientales, ou' il veut que tout le monde contribue. Mais pluſieurs doubtent forts qu'elle reuſſiſſe. La compagnie d'Hollande eſt trop bien eſtablie pour la pouvoir ruiner, princepalement depuis qu'elle à obtenu la liberté de pouvoir trafiquer dans la Chine.*

On eſpere que les Turcs ſe retireront, & qu'ils laiſſeront les Chreſtiens en repos cette campagne. S'ils avoient des chefs, qui entendiſſent la guerre, ils nous donneroient bien de la peine, leurs ſoldats eſtans braves, & allans au feu vigoureuſement & aſſurement. Monſieur de Souches a le Danube entre luy & les Turcs, & eſt maiſtre de la campagne, ou il eſt. La riviere de Raab eſt entre l'armee de l'Empereur & celle des Turcs, & ainſi les Chreſtiens ne courent à preſent aucun riſque; ce qui obligera les ennemis à ſe retirer.

HAVING tired you with news of ſtate, I will try whether I can do ſo too with news from *Greſham*. There was made an experiment for finding the velocity of a bullet, by the means of the inſtrument for meaſuring the time of deſcending bodies; which was ſo contrived, that the pendulum was ſet on moving by the bullet's paſſing out of the mouth of the gun, and a board was ſet up for a mark at a determinate diſtance, and a ſtring extended from that board to the pendulum, which was ſtretched pretty ſtiff, and ſo contrived, that a ſmall thruſt againſt the board would ſtop the pendulum, the impulſe of the bullet againſt the board would be preſently communicated back to the pendulum, by which means that vibrating body being ſtopt at the very inſtant, would have ſhewn the time that the bullet was paſſing from the mouth of the piece to the board or mark; but it was found upon ſeveral trials, that the bullet pierced through the board, which was three inches thick, and did not break a ſmall ſlender piece of white thread, which was to have ſtopt the pendulum. Order was given, to think upon a better way of making this experiment.

WE

WE have also begun to try experiments for measuring the time of falling bodies in water, and found yesterday that shot, let fall in a glass tube of 81 inches long, came to the bottom in about 2″. This is to be prosecuted in a larger vessel, with bigger balls, and of several materials.

WE made also a beginning with the experiments of measuring the refraction of common water, and found it about 14°.

ON *Monday* last a club of our philosophers went to *Paul*'s, to make experiments of falling bodies, and of pendulums: there were Sir *R. Moray*, Dr. *Wilkins*, Dr. *Goddard*, Mr. *Palmer*, Mr. *Hill*, Mr. *Hook*; and some of them went to the top of the steeple, and let down a pendulum of 200 feet long, with an appendant weight of lb, and found two vibrations thereof made in 15″. Time would not then give leave to proceed to the other experiments that were designed; among which will also be the *Torricellian:* but they will be set upon within two or three days.

I BELIEVE Sir *Robert Moray* will himself let you know the news he received from Mr. *Zulichem*, concerning some new observations lately made by one at *Rome* of *Saturn*, confirming his system, by the means of a glass, far better by relation than any of those of *Divini*, wrought after a new way, without any mould at all. From the same hand you may also expect a farther relation concerning the post-chariot in *France*, how they now practise it all over that country, running with it from *Paris* to *Bourdeaux* in $4\frac{1}{2}$ days, which is no less, I think, than 300 miles. There is also more news about monsieur *Zulichem*'s new pendulum for longitudes; but that I am not at all able to give you any tolerable account of, but leave it altogether to the hand that was entrusted with it, which is the same knight I lately named.

BUT yet I have not done; I must add, and recommend to you, the list of georgical enquiries, which the committee for agriculture have pitched upon, as to arable and meadows, desiring all their members that have interest in the country, and acquaintance with experienced husbandmen, to procure a good account and answer upon them; and not doubting, Sir, but that you will so effectually recommend them, and such others as you yourself shall devise and add, that a satisfactory return will be made to them. They are such as follow: * * *

SIR, *London, Sept.* 22, 1664.

HAVING now received all the *Latin* papers you had in your hands concerning the book of Colours, the impression will be finished, I think, within two or three weeks; and it may be sooner, because the *Latin* of the diamond observations were dispatched before the return of the said sheets, the importunity of the printer extorting from me whatsoever I had of it; nor do I apprehend any considerable mistake in that part (though it wanted your review) because there is used more than ordinary care in the translation of it. Mr. *Crook* is ready to begin the printing of the book of Cold, and doubts not to finish it within the time desired, if he may be presently and uninterruptedly furnished with copy. Mr. *Whitaker* telling me he should go to *Oxford* this week, and promising that he would call upon me before his going, I have kept the weather-glass papers by me, to send them by him; which it will be necessary to return with speed, to expedite the impression the sooner. Dr. *Merret* is willing to have his experiments of that subject annexed: he desireth only, that if there should be occasion to name him, he may have his true name given him, which is not *Charles* (as the book of Colours hath it) but *Christopher:* which, I suppose, will easily be granted him. You will please, Sir, to consider where it will be fittest to place them. The undertaker of the impression will certainly obey you in the number of copies;

but he is somewhat troubled that he had not the additions he looked for, for the reprinting of the *Scept. Chemist.*

I DID very lately receive the following lines about the *Turkish* Bible: "As for the "translation of the Bible, I went" (saith my friend at *Amsterdam*) "to monsieur *de* "*Geere* myself, and desired to know more especially if any thing were done in the "New Testament. He, to satisfy me as much as he could, carried me into his "closet, where he shewed me some letters of doctor *Warnerus*, even of this year; "but we could not find that yet he had done any thing in the New Testament; and "therefore we would wish" (so he goes on) "that the person in *England*, that hath "done already an evangelist, and the acts of the apostles, would go on, and make "an end of that most laudable work. What matter" (saith he farther) "if we had two "translations to confront them together? or, if you in *England* should promote the "New, and we here the Old Testament unto the *Turkish* people? Sure it is, that "the time is at hand, in which new evangelists will break forth, to say unto *Sion*, "thy God reigneth." So far he.

Two days since I received also an answer from Mr. *Hevelius*, to the packet I sent him from the Society (wherein was contained the diploma of his election amongst the rest.) The answer is full of gratitude to his electors, and runs over with expressions of respect of their merit and design. The inclosed for Dr. *Wallis* came in company with that which was addressed to me, which I could neither spare itself, nor make a copy of, for the present, to give you a full view of its contents. Yet I cannot but extract two or three particulars, which are indeed the chief things mentioned by him, except his civilities to the Society. 1. *Nihil potius ducam* (saith he) *quàm ut quantocyus meas circa fixarum loca observationes deproperem; dummodò prius Cometographici nostri labores penitus ad umbilicum fuerant perducti; id quod proximâ æstate fieri posse spero.* 2. *Ad congressum solis & mercurii omni diligentiâ quocunque loco attendendum esse omnino judico; quantum in me erit, si Deus vitam serenitatemque cæli concedat, omnem operam meam ea in observatione polliceor, tum quicquid ex ipso cælo depromere licebit, lubens vobis communicabo.* 3. *Eclipsin solarem hujus anni de* 28. *Jan. st. nov.* (this is that eclipse which Dr. *Pell* sent word of to the Society, that *Eichstadius* himself, and almost all calendographers had skipped over) *etiamsi, quantum sciam, vix quisquam in ephemeridibus vel calendariis mentionem ejus fecerit, tamen cùm mihi jam antea constaret, certò fore futuram, omni diligentiâ ad eam attendi, cæloque sereno eam quoque observavi; de quo mihi valde gratulor; cùm pauci admodum illam deprehenderint. Num pariter à vobis in Anglia conspecta & debitè annotata fuerit, scire gestio. Sol cùm oriretur hîc Gedani, horâ scil.* 7. 50'. *fere, jam conspicuâ parte obscuratus erat: horâ* 7. 53'. *jam ad* $2\frac{3}{4}$ *dig. defecerat. Quæ obscuratio magis magisque postmodum increvit ad hor.* 8. 22'. *usque ubi maxima obscuratio* $4\frac{1}{4}$ *dig. extitit. Deinde rursus sensim lumen suum recuperavit. Phases ejusdem eclipseos* 22. *observavi ad ultimum usque digitum hor. sc.* 9æ. 15'. *Ab hoc tempore nubes intervenerunt, ut nihil prorsus amplius de ipso fine animadverterimus.*

THIS I entreat you, Sir, be pleased to communicate, with my humble service, to Dr. *Wallis*. I name not Dr. *Wren*, because he was present when the letter itself was read to the Society. I shall be very glad (and so will our virtuosi) to receive from Dr. *Wallis* what philosophical particulars may be contained in *Hevelius*'s letter to him. It may be, I shall by my next have leisure to send to you both the observations of this *Dantiscan* astronomer concerning two late moon-eclipses, one of A. 1663. *Aug.* 18, the other, of A. 1664. *Aug.* 6, which latter was little observed of here, by reason of the cloudy weather.

YESTERDAY we had at our meeting the company of a *Parisian* academist, recommended to Sir *R. Moray* and me. I have known him to frequent the meetings of monsieur

monſieur *de Montmor*: his name is monſieur *Bley*, no unlearned, though here unknown, man. He was much pleaſed with our experimental method (though we had not any conſiderable experiments then ready) and with our ſedate and friendly way of conference, as alſo with the gravity and majeſtickneſs of our order. We had no other experiments but that of breaking the ſteel cylinder with P. *Rupert*'s powder, and the deſcent of leaden, wooden, and wax balls in water. In the mean time, we ſupplied what was wanting here, by the reading of *Hevelius*'s letter, and ſome reflections thereon; as alſo with letting him ſee our contrivances for fetching up water from the bottom of the ſea, and the ſounding balls without a line; both which he was hugely taken with; as alſo with the ſtories of compreſſing a hollow leaden veſſel, by the preſſure of the ſea in the bay of *Biſcay*, and the æolipile by the ambient air, after the included air had been extremely rarified. I dare ſay he will extol our inſtitution and proceedings to the ſky, whereſoever he comes; though I muſt needs ſay, we grow more remiſs and careleſs than I am willing to expatiate upon. Yet this I muſt ſay to a perſon that I am ſure hath a concern for our proſperity, that nothing is done with the king for us, that our meetings are very thin, and that our committees fall to the ground, becauſe it is not poſſible to bring people together; though I ſolicit, to the making myſelf troubleſome to others, not to ſay much of the trouble which I create to myſelf good ſtore.

BUT *manum de tabula*, after I ſhall have ſaid two or three words of ſtate news. The war like to go on; the king of *France* not like to intereſt himſelf much in it, but deſirous to let us engage together, as far and as deep as we pleaſe. The *Turks* ſeem to have recruited their courage. The *French Eaſt Indian* company carried on with reſolution. The king intendeth to go to *Hampton-court* on *Tueſday* next; and then prince *Rupert* to embark. And here I leave news to haſten to aſſure you that I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 29, 1664.

I HOPE you received your manuſcript of weather-glaſſes by Mr. *Hartlib*, and that they will be returned with all poſſible ſpeed. The ſociety took your ſuggeſtions of ſeveral experiments very kindly, and laid their commands upon me to thank you for them. They were all looked upon as conſiderable, though the magnetical ones were judged not practicable at *Paul*'s, by reaſon of the abundance of iron almoſt every where found in that place. That with a glaſs ball hermetically ſealed in weighing of bodies on the top of the ſteeple and below, was preſently order given for, as a very proper one to diſcover whether the difference of the weight of bodies above and below proceeds from the different degrees of the thickneſs of the air; which by this means will be done to a notable diſparity.

WE ſpent a great part of our yeſterday's meeting in proſecuting of the experiments of the deſcent of bodies in water. We had ready a body of wood almoſt cubical, another of the ſame matter double conical, one end tapering three inches, the other two; another cone, tapering two inches, with a flat baſis; another cone, tapering 1 inch; and then a pyramid of 1 inch, and another of two inches, all theſe 3 with flat baſes: laſtly, a cylinder and a globe; all of the ſame wood, and of the ſame weight, with an appendant leaden weight of two ounces. The firſt came to the bottom, in a ſquare veſſel filled with water, of about 8 feet high, in 12″ ½; the

ſecond, tapering 3 inches downwards, in $9'\frac{1}{2}$, and with the 2 inches downwards, in the ſame time as to ſenſe; the third, in $7'''\frac{5}{4}$ circiter; the fourth, in $11''\frac{1}{2}$; the fifth, in 10″; the ſixth, in 8″; the ſeventh, in 12″, and a little better; the laſt, which was the globe, in $9''\frac{3}{4}$, circiter. Theſe experiments will be repeated and carried on, the next meeting. The reſt of our time was ſpent partly in reading Dr. *Wallis*'s letter, in commending his care in digeſting *Horrox*'s papers, and in ordering him thanks; whereof the incloſed ſpeaketh more particularly; partly in taking notice of ſome experiments and obſervations lately made abroad, and written to me, concerning refractions and the belts of *Jupiter*.

CONCERNING refractions, the *Pariſian* letter ſaith, *qu'elles ſuivent les raiſons des ſinus, & que celle de l'eſprit de vin eſt plus grande que celle qui ſe fait dans l'eau.* The latter part hereof our company underſtood not.

AS to the obſervations of *Jupiter*'s belts, another letter from *Paris* to me mentions, that there having been a challenge for the excellency of optic glaſſes betwixt *Euſtachio* and *Campani*, thoſe of the latter were found better than thoſe of the former; and that the firſt of *July* N. S. 1664, there were diſcovered in *Rome* four belts in *Jupiter* more obſcure, and two in the ſame, more clear, than the reſt of his diſcus. So that inſtead of two or three we have now ſix belts in *Jupiter*. I am alſo deſired by that virtuoſo, who imparted me theſe things, to enquire here, how our obſervers ſaw *Jupiter* that day (vid. *July* 1, N. S.) and how they ſaw the ſatellites on the 25th of this month, N. S. But I can meet with none that can ſatisfy this query.

CASATI, having been written unto by one of my *Pariſian* correſpondents, about the odd phænomenon of the liquor of biſmutum ſealed up hermetically, anſwers thus in his own language:

Quanto à quella eſperienza, di cui parlo nel libro, Terra machinis mota, *pag.* 143. *io ſteſſo non l'ho patricata, ſe bene per la forma del dialogo s'introduce Guldino, che ne parla, come ſe egli ſteſſo l'haveſſe fatta. Ella fu fatta da un tal giovane Boemo (il cui nome non mi recordo, ma ha ſcritto un libro di fontane & ſpiritali, ſtampato in Ferrara, come mi pare) il quale, con il ſignior don Innocenzo Conti ſtava generale delli armi in Ferrara, & puoi in Roma: detto ſignior al ſuo ritorno mi moſtrà, & in quel libro ancho ſta notata, la ſudetta eſperienza: ſe però ſe legera bene cio chi io dico, ſi trovara, che quel liquore non creſce & cala ſecundo i periodi de fluſſi & rifluſſi marini, ma creſce né plenilunii & cala ne novilunii; & di quà ſi vede, come la luna può caggionare tali incrementi & decrementi; & ſi come gli caggiona in queſto liquore né plenilunii & novilunii, coſi ponno trovarſi nel mare altri corpi, che al ſalire della luna ſi gonfino, & al deſcendere ſi ſgonfino, & nulla più ho io preteſo di dire in tal luogo.*

Che coſa poi ſia il Biſmuto; cio è, una ſpecie di piombo cinerie, cio, mi recordo aver letto in G. Agricola, & nel muſæo metallico dell' Aldrovandi; ma io qui non havendo tali libri, non poſſo darne maggior notitia circa i luoghi della minera. Quanto poi al modo di eſtrahere quel liquore, non ſaprei più chiaramente dirlo di quello, che in poche parole ho detto nel libro.

THIS account maketh us not wiſer than we were before; but as good as I had it, I would not omit to ſend it, remembring your concern in having it enquired after.

I HAD lately a letter out of *New England* from Mr. *Winthorp*, but almoſt eleven months old, which I much wondered at. It refers to another letter which I never received, and mentions only two or three not very conſiderable particulars; whereof one is about a mineral that an *Indian* brought him, which is a kind of marcaſite, but differing from the ordinary ſort, being whiter and clearer; but Mr. *Winthorp* deferred trial till he might have more, there being then brought to him but very little of it. He is alſo enquiring after another place, which, by the *Indian*'s relation, gives ſigns of copper; of which he promiſeth to give me further notice of hereafter. He concludes,

cludes, that he is neceſſitated to be up in the country far from the ſea, and fears he ſhall not have opportunity, in that reſpect, to make trial about the ſalt-work ſo ſoon as he intended; though he ſaith he hath had men at work about it ſince he arrived there. He preſents his humble ſervice to the whole Society, and particularly to the lord *Brounker*, Mr. *Boyle*, Sir *R. Moray*.

WE have received very conſiderable news from *Guinea*, by a ſmall frigate that came yeſterday into the river from thence: it is, that major *Homes*, and ſome other ſhips ſent thither to reinforce him, have not only taken four well laden *Dutch* ſhips in thoſe parts, but alſo *Cape Corſa*, and are now preparing to make an attempt upon the only remaining conſiderable place of the *Dutch* there, which is the *Caſtel della Mina*; unto which enterprize they are ſaid to have the readineſs of 30000 natives, who are affirmed to hate the griping genius and ſevere government of the *Dutch*.

THIS I look upon as the foundation of an implacable war: and what can be the next, but that the *Dutch* will make it their whole buſineſs in the *Eaſt Indies* to expel the *Engliſh* thence? for which purpoſe, it is ſtrongly ſurmiſed, that they have already diſpatched orders over land thither, to put ſuch a work in execution; ſeeing they find *England* diſpoſed (ſo they ſay) to ruin them every where.

THE plague is now decreaſing, God be bleſſed, at *Amſterdam*, and the number of the dead is diminiſhed from 1050 to 800 a week; and amongſt theſe are ſeveral hundreds that die of other maladies; it being obſerved, as I am informed, by the phyſicians of the *United Provinces*, that whereas in the former plague that reigned amongſt them, all diſeaſes turned to the plague, (which they aſcribe to an univerſal putrefaction of the air) at this time it is otherwiſe, there being ſtill many other diſeaſes on foot; whence they conclude it to be no ſuch corruption of the air, but an infection brought thither from *Algier*, eaſy to be traced ſtep by ſtep. I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 6, 1664.

WHEN I came home yeſternight from *Greſham* I found your preliminary papers, which I was very glad of, and doubt not, but that according to the tenor of your laſt letter, the whole will be diſpatched with ſo much ſpeed that the preſs ſhall not ſtay for it. I intend, God willing, to-morrow to deliver to Mr. *Crook* what I have received; and to offer, by the way, what you propoſe to Dr. *Merret* concerning his appendix. It may be, he may think *Chriſtophorus* to be a better name than *Carolus*: however I ſhall laugh with him, when I read to him your lines about it. I humbly thank you, Sir, for the note you were pleaſed to impart to me concerning the ſenſitive plant; and I ſhall double my acknowledgments, when you ſhall do me the favour of communicating the other way of propagating it. I was lately at young Mr. *Walker*'s, who carried me into his *Virginian* garden, and there ſhewed me a good number of the plants of that country, and among them the true ſnake-weed (as he aſſured it to me) thriving well. Being ſome weeks ſince put, by our committee of correſpondence meeting at Mr. *Povey*'s, upon the peruſing the hiſtory of the articles, to draw up enquiries out of it, I met there with a whole wood, ſaid to be in the paſſage of the iſthmus from *Nombre de Dios* to *Panama*, full of ſuch ſenſitive trees, which, as ſoon as they are touched, move all over, and make with their branches and leaves a rattling noiſe, winding themſelves alſo together into the figure of a globe. But why do I take up your time in relating things, which you cannot but have

have taken notice of already, being so well acquainted with that author? I should rather have told you what was our business yesterday at *Gresham*, where we examined whether the experiment lately made at *Paris*, and communicated to me, concerning the excess of the refraction of spirit of wine above that of common water, did hold with us also, and found it did; that of water, when the angle of inclination was 30°, having an angle of refraction of 41°, 35′, whereas that of well rectified spirit of wine, at the same angle of inclination, had 42°, 45′, for its angle of refraction. Some body of the company, that hath too slender thoughts of all what comes from abroad of a philosophical nature, or is done by strangers, offered, before the experiment was made, to lay ten to one that it would not be found so.

THE experiments of descending bodies in water succeeded not, because of the leaking of the long square vessel with windows, in which they were to be made. Dr. *Charleton* upon occasion mentioned to the company, that having killed a buzzard and opened him, had found three stones in him, lying in a triangular way, but one of them being less than the other two. He was desired to shoot another, and to make the dissection thereof before the company. The physicians of the Society are to meet on *Monday* next at Dr. *Ent*'s, to consider of what is to be particularly enquired after in the anatomical administrations this winter. Sir, you being of that committee, they will think themselves not a little obliged to you, if you would please to suggest some things that may be worthy of further investigation. If I had not been afraid of *Hudibras*, I had seconded Dr. *Charleton* with the relation of a certain apothecary in *Ireland*, who, as I was assured by a physician that employed him there, has also three testicles, being excessively given to venery. There is certainly something as well in the conformation of the parts, as in the temper of animals, that necessitateth them (if I may say so) to such and such operations.

BEING yesterday before our philosophical meeting, at a coffee-club, we had not only state news, as that of prince *Rupert*'s being gone down to the *Hope*, to embark presently in a fleet of eighteen men of war, and of the resolution of the *Dutch* to pass thorough the channel with eighty sail (whereof twenty are designed for *Guinea*, ten for the *East Indies*, and the rest to convoy those two parties a good way) but also of philosophy, whereof I must send you one or two particulars, which were new to me, and, it may be, will not be unwelcome to you, especially at this time, when you are reviewing your experimental history of cold, if you have not met with such relations already. One was, that in the northern countries, they have their *French* wines (for of these the relator spake only) frozen in the cask, by putting them into water, whereby being thawed, the water encompassing the cask with wine, freezeth all about it. The other was, that their fish being heaped up together in baskets, and frozen, and covered over with ice and snow, insomuch that you may snap them in pieces; yet when they come to be thawed thoroughly, they are often found alive. This latter story agreeth with the Dantiscan, of swallows frozen up and reviving when thawed: *fides sit penes authorem*, yet these relations deserve farther enquiries.

To-morrow, God permitting, I shall obey your commands in writing to *Amsterdam* for sending you over a printed sheet of *Warnerus*'s edition of the *Turkish* Bible. I rejoice hugely, that you have resolved to carry on the translation of the New Testament; and I hope the translator will publish with it his *Turkish* Dictionary, as it is much desired by Dr. *Castel* and many others, although something hath been already done of that kind in *Rome*; but that intelligent men think it not at all equal to what Mr. *Seaman* is able to perform therein. Sir, your interest in him may easily prevail with him to satisfy the learned and pious in this particular also. I confess, it will be troublesome and dangerous to spread such a book as the Bible in *Turkey*; but yet

it

it ought to be attempted; and much may be done in times of war with that nation, to insinuate it to *Turkish* prisoners, and by their means to leaven the lump; and having done what is in our power, commit the success to the wise and almighty author thereof, unto whose protection I commend you heartily, being,

SIR,

your faithful humble servant,

H. O.

MR. *Southwell* is chosen clerk of his majesty's council, in the place of Sir *George Lane*, who resigned it, as I hear.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 13, 1664.

THE rest of your thermometrical discourse is safely come to my hands; only I must give you a little advertisement concerning the carrier, from whom, when it was sent to my house, there was not only demanded by the porter his due for the pains of bringing it (which was satisfied by me, as formerly) but also for the carriage from *Oxford* to *London:* but when I looked upon the roll I found a piece of the cover torn out, just where the words, *carrier paid*, are wont to be written; which making me suspect a cheat, I refused that part of the demand, shewing the ground of my suspicion to the she-porter that brought it me, who would put it upon the being rubbed off in the sack among other things. But it was too artificially done, to be laid upon such an accident; which made me persist in my denial, and add, that I did intend by post to acquaint my correspondent at *Oxford* with it; and in case it had not been paid there, I should be so just as to pay it here.

THE first sheet of this discourse is printed, and I see Mr. *Crook* will make quick dispatch if there want not copy. Mr. *Merret* returns his humble service to you, and saith, that the place for an appendix is soon found. Only I pray, Sir, be pleased to intimate unto me, whether you would have it joined by any transition, and, if so, in what manner, or by none at all.

PART of our yesterday's entertainment at *Gresham* was the hearing of some consorts upon a revived musical instrument called *Archiviole*, invented by a *Frenchman* twenty-one years ago, and then notified here to Mr. *Haak*. There was about that time made one of them, to be presented to the late king; the troubles intervening diverted the music, and left the instrument imperfect; which now is brought again to light, and by my lord *Brereton*'s care and expences made perfect, comprehending both an organ and a concert of five or six viols in one, giving an excellent harmony, very solemn and most fit for religious music; but only that the multitude of strings maketh it somewhat longsome and tedious to tune, the alteration of the air putting them out of tune in a little time. *Mersennus* gave first notice of it hither, saying in a letter of his, which I have seen, *qu'un Ange, à ce qu'il luy sembloit, ne pouvoit proceder plus simplement & gentiment.* I must confess it transports me, and cannot but exceedingly please him who plays upon it, hearing himself alone perform a whole concert of viols. The rest of the time we spent in prosecuting the experiment of the velocity of bodies descending in water, where nothing occurred very considerable; 2. in appointing certain experiments to be made in the next anatomical administration; and 3. in giving order for several liquors, as wines, oils, lixiviums, sea-water, to try their refractions. Since my last I met with the person that yearly goes to *Greenland* to the whale-fishing, who though he told me but sad news of this summer voyage of theirs, as being rather a loss than gain to them, yet he refreshed me again, by telling me that

that the ſhip, ſome ſeven or eight months ſince gone to the *Bermudas*, to fiſh whales there, hath had better luck, by killing ſeveral whales of a peculiar kind, that have no fins, but great teeth, and (which ſeems incredible) yielding an oil, which, though boiling, yet ſcaldeth not the hand, but feels only blood-warm; at which when I ſmiled as a fable, he would aſſure the truth thereof with all earneſtneſs that can be deſired, proteſting to me, that two of the engagers had written hither, and that he had read it in both the letters.

FROM *Paris* my friend ſaith, that he hath a relation for me at *Rome* of a woman, that hath been with child for an extraordinary length of time without being delivered; and that he will ſend me ſome obſervations of one *Caſſini*, an aſtronomer, upon *Saturn*, made with the new glaſſes of *Campani*.

A TRUCE is certainly concluded betwixt the Emperor and the *Turks*, the ſuddenneſs whereof amazeth moſt people. The Emperor hath been very politic in this matter, making preſent uſe of the late advantage over the enemy, and offering to the Grand Vizir ſuch terms, as was wiſdom for him to accept, and not diſhonourable for the Emperor to grant; eſpecially conſidering the neceſſity he now lieth under of conſummating his marriage, of providing for the defence of *Flanders*, and of maintaining the intereſt of the houſe of *Spain*, which in all probability would be ruined, if this peace were not made, the king of *Spain* being generally thought dead, though it be not owned by that nation; nor will be, till they have put things into ſome poſture of ſafety.

SIR *John Lawſon* is come home, but brings news that beget a ſtrong ſuſpicion in us, that *de Ruyter*, having now victualled his *Mediterranean* fleet, and ſheathed it, is gone to relieve and fortify his countrymen in *Guinea*; which, if it prove true, will anger us very much, and put things to extremity.

THE *Pariſian* letter to me hath this note: *La pape nous refuſe tout à Rome. On craint icy, qu'il ne ſe forme une ligue contre la France, dont la puiſſance donne de la jalouſie: quelques uns veulent, que voſtre roy y doive entrer, à quoy je voy peu de vrayſemblance, la bonne intelligence, qu'il y à entre les deux couronnes, ne faiſant croire le contraire. Le card. de Retz pourra bien aller à Rome, ou nous avons beſoin d'un homme, qui ait autant de lumieres, que luy, & autant de viguer pour ſouſtenir les intereſts de la France, & pour rompre les deſſeins, qu'on pourroit former contre elle.* But I am called away, and can ſay no more at preſent, than that I am,

SIR,

your very humble,
and faithful ſervant,
H. O.

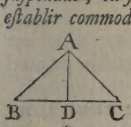
IF Dr. *Wallis* intends to write to Mr. *Hevelius*, and pleaſe to entruſt me with it, I ſhall ſend it with mine, which I am to diſpatch away ſhortly.

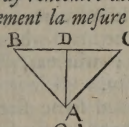
SIR, *London, Oct.* 20, 1664.

YOU will hardly diſpatch faſter for the preſs, than the preſs, by what I ſee, will perform. Three ſheets are already printed off, and I look for the fourth this day; Mr. *Crook* being reſolved not to be behind-hand, to whom alſo are already delivered Dr. *Merret*'s experiments, to be forthwith printed in an alphabet apart. I ſend you here encloſed, thoſe enquiries and anſwers concerning *Greenland*, which were formerly preſented to the Society; and they being a part of their ſupellex, I entreat

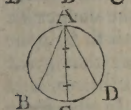
your care for their ſafety. The account given therein is ſo plain and downright, that it needs poliſhing very much; but as to the matter of fact, I hope it ſuffers nothing by the plainneſs of the deliverer. I owe you many thanks for the medicine againſt violent fluxes; but give me leave to aſk, whether the hot cinnamon and nutmeg may not claim as great a ſhare in the effect, as the cold dead man's ſkull? The obſervations recommended by you to the virtuoſi, and read to them at our meeting yeſterday, were very acceptable; and my lord *Brounker* intimated to have found (and that, as he thought, on the ſame day you did) the mercury in the baroſcope beneath 29 inches too. I ſuppoſe Mr. *Hook* will himſelf anſwer your quere, which I acquainted him with concerning the ſame; as alſo give you notice of the purſued experiments concerning the acceleration of the deſcent of bodies in water. I muſt proceed to let you know the main contents of a letter of Mr. *Zulichem* to Sir *R. Moray*, which was not a little applauded in our aſſembly yeſterday. Theſe are his own words: *Depuis peu l'on m'a envoyé une figure imprimée, qui repreſente une fort belle obſervation de Jupiter, dans le diſque du quel ils ont vû paſſer les ombres de deux de ſes ſatellites, qui paſſoient entre luy & nos yeux, & peu apres ſe deſgagerent du dit diſque. Je n'avois jamais penſé, que cette obſervation ſe pût faire, vû la petiteſſe de ces compagnons, & il faut aſſurement, que leur verres ſoient d'une perfection extraordinaire. Si celui de Reeves de 60 pieds eſt aucunement bon, il ne ſcauroit manquer de deſcouvrir les dites ombres, lorſque ces eclipſes arrivent. J'attends encore le diametre de ce verre, & celuy de ſon ouverture.*

AGAIN, *Je ne ſcay, ſi* my lord *Brounker aura depuis ſongé à la determination des vibrations de la chorde, eſgales à celles du pendule, que ſçavez; mais je trouvay ſa promeſſe bien hardiè. Cés jours paſſes jè ſuis tombè dans une ſpeculation pas fort ſloignè de celle là. J'ay cherché des pendules ſimples iſochrones à des triangles & autres figures & corps diverſement ſuſpendus; où j'ay rencontré des propoſitions aſſez plaiſantes, & qui peuvent meſme ſervir à eſtablir commodement la meſure univerſelle, à quoy le dit* my lord *s'eſt eſtudié.*



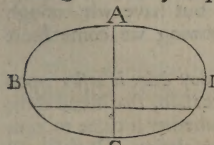


Par exemple, 1. *Je trouve, qu'un triangle rectangle & iſoſcele, come BAC, eſtant ſuſpendu par le ſommet A, ou par le milieu de ſa baſe D, & agité de coſté, eſt iſochrone au pendule ſimple de ſa hauteur AD.*



2. *Qu'un cercle ſuſpendu par un point dans ſa circonference comme A, & agité de coſté, eſt iſochrone au pendule de $\frac{3}{4}$ de ſon diametre, & de meſme toute portion, comme ABCD, ayant les coſtez AB, AD, eſgauz.*

3. *Qu'une ellipſe ABCD, dont le grand axe a ſon quarré triple de celuy du petit, ſuſpendu par l'extremité du petit axe A, & agité du coſté, eſt iſochrone au pendule AC, & de meſme toute portion coupée par une ou deux paralleles à l'axe BD.*



Si my lord *Brounker goute ces ſpeculations, je vous en envoyeray d'avantage, car j'ay la determinate generale pour tous triangles & rectangles, ſuſpendus par un des angles, par le milieu des coſtez. Item des cercles ſuſpendus par des filets, comme eſt le cercle B en A: & ce qui a eſté le plus difficile à trouver, la longueur des pendules iſochrones à une ſphere ſuſpendue de meſme par un filet, ce qui ſert principalement à la meſure univerſelle. Car notez, qu'une ſphere grande n'eſt pas iſochrone à une petite, qui auroit le centre egalement diſtant du point de ſuſpenſion. Les mathematiciens en France ont autrefois cherché ces choſes ſans en pouvoir venir à bout, à ce que je voy par des lettres, que j'ay du P. Merſenne, &c.*

THESE particulars I muſt entreat you to communicate to Dr. *Wallis* and Dr. *Wren*, with my hearty ſervice; to the former of which two virtuoſi I am to recommend from the Society ſome more papers of Mr. *Horrox*'s, by the carrier to-morrow, God willing.

OUR motto being *Nullius in verba*, we intend to examine these propositions, by making trials ourselves of the matters asserted therein: and the author of them is to be urged to explicate, how he infers his universal measure from what he affirms here.

SIR, to divert you and myself a little, *post musas has severiores*, I shall draw to an end, with annexing some lines out of the penitential letter of monsieur *Sorbiere*, written to the bishop of *Laon*, to make him employ my lord *Aubigny* for prevailing with our king to interpose by the king of *France*, that *Sorbiere* may be restored from his banishment. As much as he depressed the chancellor in his printed pamphlet, so much does he now extol him in this unprinted letter. For he saith—*Facilè alias subjungerem litteras, si opus esset expugnandæ summi viri* (meaning the chancellor) *indignationi telis & machinis pluribus, quod de insigni ipsius clementia sperare non ausim. Audit enim in patria sua hominum mitissimus; & sanè unus ille homo Anglis cunctando & parcendo restituit rem. Quam laudem minimè consecutus esset, nisi à sapientissimo rege primarium regni munus difficillimis temporibus, exul, cùm de salute unisquisque desperaret, nec ambiens, obtinuisset. Nimirum ad id operis aptissimum ostendebunt suavissimi mores, ingenium perspicax, insignis facundia, eruditio multiplex, & civilis præsertim doctrinæ usus & contemplatio. Ad quæ potissimum in illo spectanda ne satis attenderem, leviorum studiorum pulvis, & sortis meæ tenuitas veluti nubem oculis nostris objecere. Eram enim, ut verum fatear, totus in admirationem regiæ physicorum Londinensium academiæ defixus; scilicet, quod medicorum erat tractabam medicus, & fabrilia faber, in interiora & societatis sagaciss imæ arcana nuper admissus. Ad alia autem planè cæcutiebam, & si quid in diario, quod majoris esset ponderis, forte fortuna irrepsit, ab inquinatis fontibus, procul dubio, nec satis advertens, hauriebam. Condonabit itaque vir in illo honorum fastigio positus, & cujus fama totum orbem terrarum pervolitat, homini in litterulas suas bene affecto, ad physicas tantùm auscultatiores idoneo, sed* Ἀνθρωπομετρίας, *& sublimiorum scientiarum, ac politices imprimis rudi & ignaro, &c.*

SIR, I want an amanuensis exceedingly: else you should have received the whole letter, which argues as much an abject spirit as can well be, and whereby the writer hath now made himself hateful by all persons of honour; whereas, by his printed book, he appeared only guilty of imprudence and partiality.

IF I could have got any more leisure, I would have added some state-news about our taking of the *Monados*, as is affirmed upon the Exchange; but of the danger we are in of losing *Guinea* by *Du Ruyter*'s fleet, which Sir *J. Lawson* supposeth to be gone thither, though many will lay wagers to the contrary; and some of those that grant their being gone thither, are persuaded that our people there, by the assistance and kindness of the Blacks, will be able enough to maintain their acquest. In the mean time, the *Dutch* will not now make any haste to come abroad, but have wit enough to let our victuals and money be consumed without action, knowing we come short both of their frugality and supplies of money.

I HAD almost forgot to intimate to you, that meeting yesterday Mr. *Worsley* upon the Exchange, I was desired by him to let you know, upon occasion, that some three or four weeks he sent you a letter of business, but knows not whether it came to your hands; which puts him, to use his own word, to some disconsolation. But I must run away to the agriculture committee, being,

SIR,

your very humble,
faithful servant,
H. O.

I CANNOT possibly review.

SIR,

SIR, *London, Octob.* 22, 1664.

THE printer calling with inſtances upon me for more copy, maketh me importune you with theſe lines ſo ſoon after my laſt, eſpecially ſince I promiſed him that he ſhould not ſtay for ſupply. I have this day corrected *G*, and muſt hear that this ſheet being printed off, they muſt reſt, if no more copy be ſent in the interim.

WE have had an anatome at *Greſham* this day, but my occaſions that were urgent pulled me away from the aſſiduity I intended. In the mean time I received from Mr. *Beale* an anatomical relation about the manner of cutting the bladder out of the heads of cattle; which, if it be ſo new to you as it is to me, will perhaps ſurpriſe you. It ſeems cattle are ſometimes afflicted with a bladder in the brains, cauſing a vertigo in them; and in the taking it out, my author ſaith, that the artiſt firſt opens the ſkull in that ſide of the forehead, in which, by a peculiar ſoftneſs, he perceives the bladder to lie, about four fingers breadth, and with a penknife, after he hath cut open the films which incloſe the brain, ſcrapes off the brain, until the bladder appear; then plucks forth the bladder, with a ſtring which feeds it, and with an inſtrument for that purpoſe divides the brain at that place, where nature hath made a partition, that is, where the ſpinalis medulla ſhuts to it, and then taketh forth all that half of the brain in which the bladder grew, leaving the other half as much uncovered and unviolate as poſſibly he can. Which done, he turns the bullock's head ſo upon the horns, that all the water and blood that was gathered together in the brain-pan, may run forth, and then with a fine handkerchief on the top of an inſtrument, wipes the brain-pan as clean and as dry as he can, and ſo cloſes up the ſkull again. The beaſts uſually (he adds) in a few hours fall to their meat, and recover perfectly.

MR. *Beale* ſaith, that the perſon from whom he had this account is an anatomiſt, and in particular perfectly read in Dr. *Willis*'s *Anatome Cerebri*, and that he hath promiſed him more exactneſs and fulneſs of the operation, which he relateth to be by divers diverſely performed, but moſt ſucceſsfully by thoſe who, in taking away the bladder, do carefully alſo take away the whole lobus, or part of the brain wherein the bladder lieth. He obſerveth withal, that the part of the brain taken out hath been, upon ſearch, when the beaſt was ſlaughtered, found regenerate, only of ſomewhat a ſofter and looſer conſiſtence than the reſt. This, if you pleaſe, with my humble ſervice to Dr. *Willis*. Yeſterday I ſent to Dr. *Wallis*, by the coach, that packet of *Horrox*'s, which I threatened him with in my laſt *Thurſday*'s letter. I am called to ſupper, which obligeth me to conclude abruptly,

SIR, your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

THE agriculture committee hath added, upon Dr. *Merret*'s ſuggeſtion, one enquiry more, *viz.* What plants ſeveral grounds produce naturally?

SIR, *London, Oct.* 27, 1664.

I FEAR very much that you, as well as we, have taken pains in vain about the Mercurial conjunction. Our virtuoſi did obſerve, both at *Greſham* and Mr. *Reeves*'s, but found nothing of what they looked for. I hope ſome of our ingenious friends in the *American* plantations, to whom I ſent notice of it above ſix months ago, have made good obſervations, the conjunction falling out there about two or three o'clock in the afternoon, if authors have calculated aright.

MORE copy will be extremely welcome to the printer, who will quickly diſpatch Dr. *Merret*'s appendix, which is not above two ſheets. What you mention about the

title-page, ought to be ſo; and what you require concerning the conveyance of the ſheets to you as ſoon as they are printed, you will be readily obeyed in; and I ſhall, God willing, take care of diſtinguiſhing each title into paragraphs, *&c.* And I do not only review the corrected proofs before they are printed off, but look alſo over the printed copy itſelf, to collect the errata, as the preſs goes on with the book. I did enquire at *Greſham* about the ſtation of the barometer, and was informed, that on *Monday* laſt it was lower than the operator had ever ſeen it, the weather of that day being here lowering, and in part rainy. The ſaid operator of the Society, by their command, doth keep a diary of the ſtations of that mercury, together with the ſtate of the winds and weather, and hath done ſo ever ſince the beginning of this year, whereof he will be called to an account at the end of it.

THE yeſterday's ſpectacle at *Woolwich* keeping me from attending the Society's meeting, will keep you alſo for once from hearing of their experiments and debates. The chief of the court, and ſome of our chiefs, went to ſee the St. *Catharine* (ſo they have named the new frigate) launched, and I had curioſity enough to be among the ſpectators, and in the veſſel itſelf, going out of the dock. It is a very gallant ſhip, of about eighty guns, marked for nineteen feet draught of water, when ſhe hath her full load; of about forty feet over, and an hundred and twenty feet long; ſtanding the king in ſome nine thouſand pounds as ſhe now is, and being like to coſt him eleven or twelve thouſand pounds more, to rigg her out completely with cables, ſails, anchors, and guns. Sir *John Lawſon* is ſaid to be appointed her commander; the king, queen, duke, and all the great ones, were there, and innumerable people; and the ſubject deſerved ſuch ſpectators. In going down, our company went aſhore by the way, to ſee Sir *William Petty*'s ſhip, which advanceth very well, and will be launched, as they judge, ſix weeks hence.

SIR *R. Moray* and Sir *William* laid a wager about her drawing of water, when ſhe is launched, the latter maintaining ſhe ſhall not draw above ſix feet eight inches, the other being for more. There is already ſpent upon her an hundred and thirty load of wood, the ſhipwrights making reckoning for twenty more, before ſhe be finiſhed. Her breadth is thirty-two feet, whereof fourteen is the ſpace between the two bodies; and her length by the keel is eighty; and the height of the platform from the ſurface of the water is fourteen feet; of which ſhe will draw eleven, when ſhe is fully loaden. I find Sir *William* very chearful, and all his undertakers; and all thoſe, I think, that are well-wiſhers to the improvement of naval architecture, wiſh good ſucceſs to this brave attempt.

OF ſtate news I have little to impart to you this week; yet this I have to ſay, that moſt men think the war with *Holland* to be unavoidable, and that it will be ſuch an one as they never yet had. We hear, that the *Dutch* will ſhortly publiſh a manifeſto, to juſtify their proceedings; and we think we have matter enough to anſwer them. In the mean time, a *Pariſian* letter of this week ſaith, *La France n'eſt point fachée de vous voir animés les une contre les autres, eſperant qu'elle profitera de cette animoſité, & que pendant ce temps là elle eſtablira ſon commerce.* He addeth, *Meſſieurs les Eſtats ne peuvent nullement ſouffrir les actes d'hoſtilité, que Holmes a faits, & qu'il fait tous les jours en Guince. Et quoy que les vaiſſeaux d'Angleterre ſoyent dans la manche, & que voſtre roy ait dit, que les Hollandois ne pouvoient la paſſer contre ſon gré, ſans choquer les droits de ſa couronne, la flotte Hollandoiſe ne laiſſera pas de tenter le paſſage.*

OF *Germany*, the ſame author ſaith, *La ville d'Erfurt s'eſt rendue à l'electeur de Mayence à compoſition; la lenteur des princes d'Allemagne eſt cauſe de ſa perte. Le parti proteſtant eſt foible, & n'a plus de zele ny de vigueur. La France avec ſon argent & ſes hommes fait trembler tout le monde. Le roy fait faire aſtheur de grandes levees: la conjecture eſt aiſée touchant le deſſein, auquel elles ſont deſtinées.*

BEFORE

BEFORE I conclude, I muſt not omit acquainting you what Dr. *Charlton* affirmed to me of the laſt anatomy, that the veins on the right and left ſide of the heart were tranſpoſed, ſo that the vena arterioſa was where the arteria venoſa uſeth to be, and viciſſim; as alſo, that Dr. *Scarborough* had aſſured him, that in the body diſſected by him at the ſame time, there had been wanting the muſculus pectoralis. He added, that when he and Dr. *Ent* told Dr. *Scarborough* of the ſaid tranſpoſition of the veins, he urged, that the body, already buried, might be unburied again, to give him the ſight of ſo unuſual a ſtructure; which, whether it be done or not, I cannot yet inform you.

I SHALL endeavour to procure *Peirer*'s *Greenlandia* for you, with all poſſible ſpeed; and I remain,

SIR,

your very humble
and faithful ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

THERE was, at our late committee at Mr. *Howard*'s, ſuggeſted by Dr. *Merret* this enquiry more to be added to the reſt: What plants the ſeveral grounds produce naturally? This he thought might not a little conduce to diſcover the nature of the ſoil.

LETTERS *relating to the monſter born at* Fiſherton, *referred to in the following Letters to Mr.* OLDENBURG.

SIR, *Sarum, Thurſday Nov.* 3, 64.

IN my laſt I ſent your honour a brief deſcription of a ſtrange miſhapen birth. I am now enabled to give you a larger account of it, having ſeen it alive, and being preſent and aſſiſtant at its diſſection after death. I have here incloſed ſent your honour the deſcription and delineation of it, and can aſſure you (if I may believe my own eyes) I have written the truth, and ſhall leave it to your honour's judgment, whether you think fit to have it expoſed to the public view, either in this or any other dreſs. I confeſs the delineation is not ſo accurate as I could have wiſhed. We are now uſing our endeavours to preſerve the body.

SIR, I am in haſte, and can only at preſent acquaint your honour, that I have received your kind letter, with the box you ſent me, and do at preſent (with the return of my hearty thanks) take leave, remaining,

SIR,

your honour's affectionate friend,
and moſt humble ſervant,
WILL. HANN.

I PRAY, Sir, if this comes to your hand, do me the favour to let me know it.

From Mr. DENNY, *apothecary at* Saliſbury.

SIR, *Sarum, Nov.* 18, 1664.

I WAS commanded by Dr. *Turberville* to give you account of the manner of preſerving that ſtrange birth that was born here with us, this time three weeks; the anatomical obſervations whereof are ſent you in Dr. *Turberville*'s letter (literal miſtakes being

being to be excuſed, as being copied by a child.) After the bowels were taken out, and the body made clean with ſpunges, I made a ſtrong lixivium with brine, bay ſalt, colocynthides, wormwood, and centaury, with which having well waſhed (and often) the body, for two days ſpace; then in a latten veſſel, framed purpoſely, I put about four gallons of the ſpirit of wine, drawn upon myrrh, olibanum, and terebinth, and laid the corpſe in that, pouring upon it of oil of ſpike and turpentine about ſix pounds of each, having firſt filled the hollowneſs of the corpſe with ſpunges, mundefied with the ſame ſpirit, and made heavy with powdered gums, to keep the body under the liquor, as alſo the ſkulls with the ſame, the brains firſt taken out. Having been about ten days in this liquor, I took out the liquor, and adding more gums, diſtilled it over again to ſuch a height, as it would all burn away; which hath ſo reſiſted all manner of putrefaction and diſcolouration, as it is gone for *London* for his majeſty's view, and after, for the whole country that will. I have ſent, by *John Reynolds*, a ſmall glaſs of tinctura ſuccini, another of ſulphuris antimonii, deſiring your opinion whether they are rightly prepared, and correction, where in an error. I am about a new way, and eaſy, of preparing ſpirit of ſalt, which, if it comes to perfection I ſhall acquaint you with. So, hoping you will excuſe this ſaucineſs of troubling you, I humbly take leave, and reſt,

SIR,

your very humble ſervant,

HENRY DENNY.

From Mr. WILLIAM HANN *to Mr.* BOYLE.

SIR, *Sarum, Tueſday, Nov.* 29, 1664.

I RECEIVED yours by the *Oxford* carrier, and underſtand, that my laſt, ſent by the *London* poſt, came ſafe to your hands, and that you have done me the favour to make my name known to your Royal Society. I am glad it was welcome to your honour; yet really both the deſcription and the letter were written in ſo much haſte, that I had ſcarce time to read them over before I ſent them away. I have now more leiſure to give your honour a fuller relation of what I then wrote. Being at the coffee-houſe the ſame morning that this monſter was born, amongſt other diſcourſe, an ancient miniſter being there, told the company the news of a ſtrange monſter, born that morning at *Fiſherton*, and withal ſeemed ſomewhat to wonder how Mr. *Kent*, the miniſter of *Fiſherton*, could juſtify the baptiſing it with two names, adding, that it was a queſtion to be debated by divines, whether it were to be reckoned as two perſons, and whether it had two ſouls. I then replied, that the divines muſt be beholden to the phyſicians for the determination of it. And from the coffee-houſe I went to ſee it, but could not, without tarrying there ſome time, be admitted to the ſight of it, by reaſon of the multitude of perſons which flocked thither, where I beheld it, in the lap of the nurſe, by a little fire, having only a linen cloth for its covering, which was taken off at the deſire of every new ſpectator; beſides the room was full of holes, to let in the air, which at that ſeaſon was pretty cold and ſharp. The *Friday* following, within half an hour after this monſter died, I went to the houſe to ſee it a ſecond time, and earneſtly deſired the father of it, that he would permit us to diſſect it; but I then found him wholly averſe to it, ſaying, that if he ſhould ſuffer it, he ſhould offend God. The next day (after many ſolicitations by ſeveral perſons) he was prevailed withal to have it done; but would not be perſuaded

ſuaded to have the body preſerved after diſſection, till *argumentum ab utili* prevailed with him. The diſſector was one Mr. *Down*, a ſurgeon in *Cooke-horn*, and a ſtranger in this place, but an ancient acquaintance of Dr. *Turberville*'s (our town ſurgeon being then employed in the country.) I was aſſiſtant to him, and had both hands in the work; and had he not caſually come hither, I had done it myſelf. The diſſection was performed by candle-light, and that in ſuch a throng of ſpectators, that we had ſcarce elbow-room allowed us. There were preſent at the diſſection moſt of our town phyſicians; by name, Dr. *Turberville*, Dr. *Haughton*, Dr. *Whitewell*, and Dr. *Brown*. The diſſection being ended, Mr. *Denny* (an apothecary in this town) by the advice of Dr. *Haughton* and Dr. *Whitewell*, firſt waſhed the body with a lixivium, made of urine, bay-ſalt, colocynth, centaury and wormwood; after that, filled the cavities with bole-armonic finely powdered, and laid it in oil of ſpike for that night. The next day (as I remember) its pickle was low drawn ſpirit of wine, and its laſt menſtruum was high-rectified ſpirit of wine, drawn off upon myrrh and olibanum firſt diſtilled with oil of turpentine. The diſſection being ended, our town phyſicians (with other company) went to the tavern, where I propoſed that there might be a meeting of all us phyſicians the *Monday* following, to draw up jointly a deſcription of this monſter: but this motion was refuſed; they anſwering me, that we all had ſeen it, and that I might write to my friends to inform them, and they would do the like to theirs: whereupon (as ſoon as my other occaſions would give leave) I drew up a deſcription of it: but before I had ended it, I had a ſummons from my father, to haſten home unto him, he acquainting me in his letter with his being in a ſad condition; yet, before I would take my journey, I reſolved to ſend your honour a deſcription of the *Fiſherton* monſter; and being over-importuned, I left the deſcription in the hands of a perſon in this town, which being ſince copied out, is (as I hear) too full of pſeudography; and, to gratify the importunity of others, I wrote out the deſcription of it in *Engliſh* alſo, which (as I have been told) hath ſince travelled eaſt and weſt. At my coming home, I found my father in a bad condition indeed; for having, about a fortnight before, cut his leg to the bone, and women-ſurgeons applying things wholly improper, and contrary to it, it brought my father into a fever, and his leg to an high tumour and inflammation, inſomuch that I feared a gangreen to enſue, for ſome parts of his leg looked blackiſh and livid; and my mother ſhe feared death, but (bleſſed be God) by the uſe of good means, his fever hath left him, the tumour and inflammation in his leg are abated, and the wound brought to digeſtion; but that part in the calf of the leg, which formerly looked black and livid, is lately turned to fretting and corroding ulcers. I have been his ſurgeon about three weeks ſpace, and have dreſſed his leg almoſt every day, and am enjoined to be with him again to-morrow. Since my coming back to this town (which was four days ſince) I have taken a review of that deſcription I ſent unto your honour, and have added ſomething in two or three places, which I left out in the former; and although it be not much that I have inſerted, yet it is ſignificant to make the deſcription complete; withal I have adjoined unto it that other deſcription in *Engliſh*, and have gotten it drawn forth ſomething more exactly than the former was; all which I here encloſed preſent unto your honour. I ſuppoſe, before this comes to your hands, the monſter will be in *London*; for the father and mother began their journey thither the laſt week, carrying it with them. I thank your honour for the receipt you were pleaſed to communicate to me againſt quartanes and obſtructions. I had the ſame (with very little alteration) imparted to me about five years ſince from a friend: when I uſe it, I add cremor tartari to the infuſion. I heartily wiſh I might any way ſerve your honour, by any communications of mine, in reference to the therapeutical part

part of phyſic. As to that of the tranſplantation of diſeaſes, I can truly ſay this, that what your honour hath in print, for the cure of the yellow-jaundice, by the party's urine made into a cake with aſhes and buried in a dunghill, I had ſome years ſince imparted to me by a gentlewoman, as a cure for that diſeaſe, where other medicines will not prevail; and (as I have been credibly informed) a maiden gentlewoman of this town hath cured many of obſtinate jaundice, having only the party's water ſent unto her; but what ſhe doth with it, they that told me of it ſaid they knew not. Your honour (to the beſt of my remembrance, for I am not at preſent maſter of your book, I only borrowing it to read over, and was limited to a certain number of days for the return of it) mentioneth not any thing in your book of the tranſplantation of agues: I can acquaint you with ſome particulars of that kind: about two years ſince, a near neighbour of my father's had a ſon much afflicted with an ague, for the cure of which I uſed many medicines, in particular, I applied the yarrow-bag to the ſtomach, but all to little purpoſe or effect: at laſt, a woman coming caſually thither, took the boy's urine, emitted a little before the coming of the fit, and made it into a cake with barley-meal, and gave it to a dog to eat; the ſucceſs whereof was this, the boy was freed of the ague, and the dog which did eat of the cake had a viſible ſhaking ague-fit, as the father and mother affirmed to me (but they both thought it to be witchcraft.) Since that, I have been credibly informed, that a gentleman's ſon, about four miles from my father's houſe, was by the ſame means cured of a tedious ague, the dog which did eat the cake having the ague tranſplanted to him. When I was a ſchool-boy, I knew ſeveral freed of warts upon their hands, by taking an elder-ſtick, and cutting as many ſcotches in it as they had warts, then rubbing it upon the warts, and burying it under a dunghill. As for charms (or ſpells) I have taken the pains to write ſeveral of them, and I think I have many of them yet amongſt my looſe papers; in particular, one for ſtopping of blood, they which uſe it deſiring nothing elſe but the party's name, though at a diſtance. My mother told me, that her mother cured ſeveral, when they have bled almoſt to death, though they have been many miles from her. Another againſt burning or ſcalding (which they call ſingeing out the fire;) another againſt the cramp, another againſt worms, another againſt agues, with which a ſchool-fellow of mine cured ſeveral, and imparted it to me many years ſince, though I never yet made uſe of it. If your honour think any of them worth the ſending and writing out, you may command them. And when time will give me leave to look out and tranſcribe that receipt, I uſed ſo ſucceſsfully for the king's-evil, your honour may expect to receive it from me. The biting of a dog hath been known to be cured by the cutting off the hairs of the dog that grow on his breaſt between the ſhoulders, and applying them to the wound, without any thing elſe applied. Sir, I am enjoined to go down to my weak and aged father, either this day or to-morrow, with a purpoſe to return as ſpeedily as I may. If your honour be pleaſed to let me know in a line or two, that this comes ſafe to your hands, and direct it to be left at my lodgings at Mr. *Beach*'s houſe in *Saliſbury*, it will be there received with welcome by,

SIR, your honour's moſt humble ſervant,
WILL. HANN.

HERE is a report in this town of another ſtrange monſter born in or near *Abington*.

MR. *Whitehead*, a gentleman at *Titherly* in *Hampſhire*, nine miles from this town, had a cow, which lately brought forth a calf with two heads.

I HAVE made a hyſteron proteron in the deſcription, for the brains were diſſected the laſt of all the parts.

Incloſed

Incloſed in the preceding.

MARIA uxor Johannis Watermen ſtabularii apud Fiſherton prope civitatem Sarum, poſt partum laborioſum die Mercurii, Octob. 26, 1664, *circa horam primam matutinam peperit filiam bene figuratam, & in quolibet membro accuratè proportionatam. Semihoræ ſpatio vix interjecto, iterùm parturiens peperit partum monſtroſum cum capitibus duobus, brachiis & manibus quatuor è diametro oppoſitis, cum pedibus duobus, femoribus, natibus, anu, pudendo muliebri circa medietatem corporis prominentibus, ac umbilico ſupra pudendum tres circiter pollices eminente. Horâ quartâ matutinâ ejuſdem diei partus iſte informis baptizatus eſt, cui nomina Marthæ & Mariæ impoſita ſunt; abhinc in diem tertium vixit, in quo temporis ſpatio (per vices) lacte ſaccharato enutritus eſt, plorabat, & per alvum excrementa dejiciebat. Die Veneris Octob.* 28. *horâ nonâ matutinâ obiit Martha, & paulò poſt Maria. [Vtraque dum vixit, faciei amabilis, & forſan utraque diutius vixiſſet, ni intempeſtiva viſitantium turba tenellum huncce partum inclementiori aeri expoſuiſſet.]*

Die Saturni, Octob. 29°. *horâ 4â pomeridianâ partes internas ſpectantium oculis ſubjecit culter anatomicus; quibus à cute muſculus, & ſterno denudatis, viſui ſeſe offerebant,* 1°. *Cerebrum cum ſuo cerebello, ventriculis, venis, arteriis, nervis, & menyngibus (utrumque cerebrum pendens uncias viginti cum ſemiſſe.)* 2°. *Cor cum ſuo pericardio in eodem latere utrinque collocatum.* 3°. *Pulmones cum arteriâ trachæa.* 4°. *Mediaſtinum.* 5°. *Thymus.* 6°. *Diaphragma pervium tum gulæ, tum venæ cavæ (ſingulis hinc inde partibus debitè conformatis.) [Bina omnia bina.]*

Cæterùm anomalia partium in infimo ventre conſpiciebatur, &

1°. *A pyloro utriuſque ventriculi inteſtina (poſt inflationem) ſeſe exporrigebant longitudine ſex pedes ad canalem (ſive ductum) communem, quò utrinque ſimul coaluerunt: à ductu communi ad inteſtinum cæcum longitudo erat pedem circiter unum, ac ab inteſtino cæco ad anum pedes duos.*

2°. *Utrumque hepar (cum veſicâ biliaria, & venâ portæ) in eodem latere ſitum erat.*

3°. *Ex adverſo jecoris utriuſque ſiti ſunt lienes cum ſuis venulis & arteriis, una cum venis gaſtricis majoribus & minoribus ad ventriculum utrumque excurrentibus.*

4°. *Verſus finem quintæ lumborum vertebræ prope os ſacrum (quod hic incurvatum erat) hinc inde incumbebant renes bene figurati, (excepto quod nimis grandiuſculi fuere) caruncu-las obtinentes papillares, tum venas & arterias emulgentes.*

5°. *A renum infundibulo principium ducebant ureteres, qui inforebantur in cervicem veſicæ, quæ inter inteſtinum rectum & uterum naturali ſitu poſita inveniebatur.*

6°. *In utero diſſecto cernere fas erat ejus fundum, cervicem, vaginam, cum pudendo muliebri, non alia quàm naturæ juſtâ lege confirmatos, præterquàm quod utrique unus communiter inſerviabat. Uterus (cum veſicâ, & inteſtino recto) intra oſſa eorum receptioni deſtinata continebatur.*

7°. *Vena cava cum arteriâ aortâ, omentum, pancreas, & meſenterium, locum & progreſſum ſuum regularem ſervabant.*

Quoad partes exteriores (viſceribus exemptis) tum in Marthâ tum in Mariâ viſæ ſunt, 1. *Coſtæ numero duodecim;* 2. *Sternum tribus partibus compactum cum appendice cartilagineâ;* 3. *Vertebræ colli ſeptem;* 4. *Dorſi vertebræ duodecim;* 5. *Lumborum vertebræ quinque. Os ſacrum cum partibus ſenis vertebrarum æmulis, os ilium, os coxendicis, os pubis ambabus communia fuere.*

Totum corpus longum erat pollices viginti, latum pollices tredecim cum ſemiſſe: ſcil. tranſverſim menſuratum à pedum extremitatibus ad extremum coſtarum.

Corpus hocce conditur, quò a putredine vindicetur, & diutius aſſervetur.

Filia primogenita Eefelet nominata è vivis diſceſſit die Mercurii 9°. *diebus quatuordecim ſupervivens.*

Mater adhuc ſuperſtes & incolumis manet.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 3, 1664.

I MUST begin this with the affectionate thanks of the Society, for your reſpects to them, in giving them part of ſo conſiderable an account as that is of the monſtrous birth: they would be very glad to have that double atteſtation of the two phyſicians among their records; and you will farther oblige them in communicating what ſhall more of this matter, concerning either the life or death of theſe double bodies, come to your knowledge. Having *Rueffus* among my books I looked upon him, and found the allegation, wherein I met with this particular, that the like monſter was *anno* 1552 born here in *England* alſo, and not far from *Oxford*, of the female ſex, whereof one part was very merry, the other ſad and ſleepy: the difference in the ſhape of that from this of *Fiſherton*, according to the hiſtory, conſiſts only in this; that the former had two legs on one ſide, and a third leg with two toes on the other ſide; whereas the latter hath but two legs, both on one ſide.

DR. *Charlton* being called to an account of his laſt diſſection, and particularly preſſed concerning the tranſpoſition, which I mentioned to you in my former from his own mouth, in the preſence of others who heard him as well as I, alledge Dr. *Ent* for a witneſs of his aſſertion, was obliged at our yeſterday's aſſembly at *Greſham* to yield that he was miſtaken; both Dr. *Ent*, who was with us, and Dr. *Scarborough*, having, upon the unburying of the heart, and a ſtrict ſearch and examination, found no ſuch tranſpoſition; which diſcovery of the doctor's error, ſpread by his very poſitive affirmations (which made me without ſcruple deliver it alſo to you) addeth but very little to his credit. In the mean time, the other anatomical obſervation concerning the defect of the pectoral muſcle is confirmed, Dr. *Ent* himſelf, upon my particular enquiry, aſſerting it with all confidence, and that the perſon, whilſt alive, had not appeared defective in his motions.

WE have been lately examining the teeth of a viper, and ſomewhat of the ſtructure of the reſt of his body; and it hath been found that the fang teeth, as they call them, being let alone till pretty dry, are hollow, which was perceived by means of ſeveral chains of bubbles appearing within theſe tranſparent hollow teeth; though, whilſt the viper was alive, the obſervers could not perceive the leaſt appearance of hollowneſs, but the teeth then ſeemed perfectly tranſparent conical bodies. Both Dr. *Ent* and Dr. *Merret* affirmed, that having examined the teeth of a rattle-ſnake (which animal they found very like a viper in all its other parts, and that therefore it was not unlike but the teeth of them alſo might reſemble each other) they obſerved, that they were very viſibly hollow, with a ſmall perforation running through the middle of them, from their roots to their tops; and Dr. *Merret* ſaid in particular, that he had proved them ſuch, by thruſting a horſe-hair clear through them.

THESE obſervations may direct us to find ſomething conſiderable to the purpoſe of the nature of poiſoning done by thoſe animals; which now ſeems to me to conſiſt only in the letting out of a liquor heterogeneous or contrary to the blood and its motion in the body, into which it is conveyed after the vein hath been opened by the ſtinging teeth.

IN the purſuing of our experiments of refraction, we find that the proportions of the ſines of the angles of inclination to the ſines of the angles of refraction are near the ſame, *viz.* as four to three. And we find, that as ſpirit of wine ſuffers a greater refraction than common water, ſo oil of turpentine, which is lighter than ſpirit of wine, bears a greater than not only common water, but much greater than ſalt water.

MONSIEUR *Zulichem*, in a new letter, hath given us notice by Sir *R. Moray*, that he hath farther penetrated into the matter of figured pendulums, and found general rules

rules to give pendules isochrone as well to solid bodies as to planes; in which he saith there occur as hard problems as any he knows. He acquaints us also, to have received from Mr. *Sluse* of *Liege* a new way of thermometer, (which yet was not new to our virtuosi here) which is a cane of three feet long and an inch broad, full of salt water, in which swims a little ball of wax, mixed with something more ponderous, to make the ball keep itself about the middle of the cane; and that this ball, according to the different degree of heat, riseth and falls, though not suddenly, as the water in the common thermometer; but then, saith he, it is not subject to the various pressure of the air, which changeth the other without change of heat. He hath made the experiment of it with success. The same gentleman reflecting upon the pretty large aperture in *Reeves*'s longest tube, suggests, that it would be a matter worthy of enquiry to know, what may be the aperture in each glass of such and such distance from the focus, which he judgeth to depend only upon experience. He adds, to have seen at *Paris* with wonder a glass of twelve feet of *Divini*'s workmanship, which did bear an aperture of two inches, *Parisian* measure. Mr. *Hook* is now making his new instrument for grinding glasses, the success whereof you will shortly hear of. But I must cut short these philosophical informations, to let you know what my friend sent me lately from *Amsterdam*, in answer to what you desired by one of your former, concerning the *Turkish* translation. Monsieur *de Geer*, saith he, and I, did rejoice to find your promptitude to propagate the gospel of our Lord that way; and, if we had any thing printed, we would willingly have satisfied your desire in sending you a sheet: but the matter is thus; We have but a part of the *Old Testament*, the rest we expect with the very next; and then, if God will, we shall not fail to fall upon the work. If in the interim (so he goes on) we might crave that favour from you or Mr. *Boyle*, as to let us see a sheet of your printing of the *New Testament*, thereby to conform ourselves both in respect of the form and greatness of the character, you would oblige us very much. This (so he concludes) Monsieur *de Geer* desired me to write, presenting unto that excellent person Mr. *Boyle*, and you, his most kind salutation.

To add something of political news, I shall transcribe to you what came to my hands this week from *France*: *On ne songe icy, qu' à perdre les Protestans. Depuis peu il a este ordonné par arrest du Conseil, que les temples de Nismes & de Montauban servient demolis, & qu'il ny en auroit plus qu'un en chacune de ces villes là. On ruinera bientost les academies Protestantes, & en fera tant d'indignites à ceux, qui demeureront fermes dans leur religion, qu' en fin le nombre en sera petit & nullement considerable.*

Le Pape fait semblant d'estre faché contre le legat, & de n'approuver pas ce qu'il a fait en France, a fin que cela ne puisse nuire a papat, & qu' on ne s'en serve un jour. On dit, que la maison de Mr. de Crequy a este investie, par ce qu'il y avoit receu un homme, qui avoit assassiné une personne considerable.

On s'estonne, que le roy d' Angleterre ait trouvé mauvais, que la flotte Hollandoise, que estoit dans la mer Mediterranée, soit allée en Guinee, ny ayant rien de plus naturel, que de se deffendre, quand on est attacqué injustement & qu'on veut vous ruiner. Il semble, qu'on accuse sans raison les Hollandois d'ingratitude, ne commençans point la guerre, & ne faisans que songer a conserver ce qu'ils possedent, qu'on veut leur oster sans aucun pretexte, puis qu'ils offrent de faire satisfaction, s'ils ont fait quelque tort aux Anglois. Ils offrent mesme de se soubmettre au jugement de tel parlement de France, ou de telle cour souveraine d'Allemagne, qu'on voudra, pour la decision de leur differents. J'ay vu la response, qu'ils ont faite a Downing, par laquelle ils soustiennent, qu'ils n'ont rien fait contre les Anglois depuis le traité fait avec le roy d'Angleterre, qui a reglé toutes choses: qu'en cas, qu'ils ayent contrevenu au traité, & qu'ils ayent pris quelque vaisseaux, ou fait quelque autre enterprise, ils sont prests de reparerer tous les torts. Apres cela il est aisé de voir, qu'on ne veut point de paix, mais

qu'on veut avoir la Guinee, qui eſt a la bienſeance des Anglois. Cependant les Hollandois croyent, qu'il leur eſt plus expedient de courir la riſque d'une guerre, que de conſentir, qu'on leur prenne ce qu'ils poſſedent depuis long temps. Ils hazarderent tout pluſtoſt, que de ne ſo pas deffendre, autrement en ſe mocqueroit d'eux, & ils perdroient leur reputation. Mr. de la Boulaye part la ſemaine qui vient pour aller aux Indes pour la nouvelle compagnie. On ſe remue fort icy pour le commerce, & on a grande envie de l'eſtablir, & d'empeſcher nos voiſins de gagner ſur nous, comme ils ont fait. This ſhews what opinion the *French* have of our cauſe, and what advantage they intend to make of the war.

SIR, I received on *Saturday* laſt the beginning of your experimental *Hiſtory of Cold*, and it is gone to the preſs, whence I hope they have ſent you the ſheets printed off. But what you mention to have ſent by *Monday* carrier or coach, I have not yet received to this moment; but only the letter, which came unaccompanied with the roll of paper, mentioned in the ſuperſcription of the letter, but not obſerved by my maid that received yeſterday's letter in my abſence. Your ſervant was with me yeſterday morning, and promiſed me to enquire after it; but I have not ſeen him ſince, nor heard of the roll, which troubles me exceedingly. Thoſe carriers and coachmen are incorrigible; for that letter, which would have coſt in all but two pence, if it had come by the poſt, they took a groat for at my houſe, beſides what you paid for it at *Oxford*. I am,

SIR,

your very humble faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 5, 1664.

HAVING been, ſince my laſt, freed of the fear about your laſt papers, I thought myſelf bound to free you alſo of the ſame, into which my late mentioning of their not being come to my hands might juſtly caſt you. They are now very ſafe, and will be within this week in print, as Mr. *Crook* aſſureth, who will alſo take care of keeping them unexpoſed to the eye of a philoſophical robber. As for the *Latin* of the thermometrical experiments, I know not what inſtinct of mine ſo well ſuited with your inclination of having it publiſhed by itſelf, made me begin it, as ſoon as the *Engliſh* thereof was begun to be printed. I hope in a very ſhort time to diſpatch this tranſlation; and I promiſe myſelf the happineſs of ſhortly ſeeing you here, as for many other reaſons, ſo for the ſubmitting the traduction to your review. I am troubled I cannot get *Greenland* for you; having enquired in very many ſhops, I underſtood at length, in that of Mr. *Alleſtry*'s, that I ſhould hardly find it to be ſold in all *London*.

AFTER that *Religio Medici* is grown ſtale, we have lately printed *Religio Stoici*, which hath ſtrains of wit, and ſome very honeſt and healing maxims for broken Chriſtianity.

THE author no other, but *G. MK.* a moderate churchman, that placeth religion in the contemplation of God, and in ſubmiſſion to him, without quarrelling at innocent ceremonies of decency and order; but that wonders at men, who do legitimate perſecutions, that are uſed by others againſt themſelves by the perſecutions uſed by themſelves, againſt others; and that compareth heretics and ſchiſmatics to tops, which, as long as they are whipped, keep foot and run pleaſantly, but fall as ſoon they are neglected and left to themſelves.

BESIDES this, there is newly come abroad a certain epiſtle to the ſeveral congregations of the non-conformiſts, by one captain *Robert Everard*, an anabaptiſt before his change,

change, who, being turned papiſt, ſhews the reaſons of his converſion, as he calls it, to the catholic church. Poor man, who deſtroyeth the ſcripture, and having done ſo, will prove the pope and the church by it; but maketh, in the mean time, his new brethren glory in having got one, that was ſo far remote from *Rome*, as an anabaptiſt, to be now a proſelyte of theirs.

THE *Dutch* uſe much of the fox in aſſerting their cauſe againſt the *Engliſh*; they bear the world in hand, they will ſubmit all to the arbitration of any prince or ſtate; and they inſinuate into the body of our merchants, that it is only to raiſe a particular royal company; not forgetting to perſuade their own people, that, at the bottom of all, there lieth a deſign to make the prince of *Orange* to domineer over them. But for all this, I believe they will be outwitted, eſpecially at this preſent conjuncture of affairs; where, a league being in hand between the pope, the emperor, and *Spain*, againſt *France*, the king of *France* begins to court *England*, and is not at all like to afford any aid to *Holland*.

THERE are new troubles at *Avignon*, raiſed by the new burthens impoſed by the vice-legat, for a puniſhment to the inhabitants for their former readineſs to comply with the king of *France*; who, upon the news given him of it by the nuncio in an audience, made anſwer, that he would hear firſt from the pope what he deſired to have done upon this tumult, before he would pronounce in it.

I HAVE lately offered me a new correſpondence at *Paris*, for all the news and curioſities of *France* and *Italy*, where he affirms to have particular intereſt all over. It is a perſon of quality, and philoſophically given; which maketh me unwilling to decline the offer, if I had but leiſure and means to entertain it as I ought. He expects nothing for a return, but the communicating to him what conſiderable books are continually printing in *England*, whether in *Engliſh*, *Latin*, *Greek*, *&c.* and ſome general account of the progreſs and performances of the Royal Society. He hath already promiſed to ſend me the obſervations, which one of the very beſt philoſophers of *Paris* hath made upon the new book of optic glaſſes, that are ſo much cried up, as far excelling thoſe of *Divini*. If I may but meet with three or four contributions here in *England*, I have a good mind to embrace the ſaid overture; believing I may in a good proportion recompenſe the contributors, and being reſolved to endeavour to be very grateful to the perſons that ſhall be pleaſed to aſſiſt in the procurement of ſuch. I remain always,

SIR,

your faithful and humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 10, 1664.

I AM now to redouble upon you the thanks of the Society, for the iterated communications you have gratified them with: you may aſſure yourſelf, that you could not have ſent them to any ſingle private man, that could have had more ſenſe of it than they had; their eſteem being great for all ſuch of their members, and the concerns thereof in their mind as well abſent as preſent. They are unwilling to part with the original of the *Sarum* phyſician, enjoining me to offer you a copy of it, (ſince your letter ſaith, that haſte would not allow you to reſerve any copy) but yet, in caſe you did require again a reſtitution of the original, then to return it you. I would now, *in omnem eventum*, have ſent you a copy, but could not poſſibly redeem ſo much time as to do it myſelf; and our amanuenſis is ſo full of matter to be tranſcribed for our anniverſary election day, for our charter book, now preſently to be made

made ready for his majesty's subscription (which is to be done without his coming to *Gresham*) and for clearing a whole year's account, *&c.* that I durst not charge him with any more. The company wished that the dissector of this double-child had more distinctly and particularly expressed what vessels were common, and how they were terminated; which is all the chief matter to be looked after in this fœtus. Your other observation of the person with one kidney was therefore pleasing, because it informed them of two ureters found in that one viscus. Dr. *Ent* made mention to have observed, that when one kidney was stopt there commonly followed an ischuria.

IF I am not prevented, I can, in some measure, for my own private share, requite your anatomical presents, by letting you know how, by order of the Society, there was on *Monday* last opened a live dog by Mr. *Hook*, privately, there being only present of spectators *D. Goddard* and myself; and that by means of a pair of bellows (when the thorax was laid quite open, and the whole venter infimus also) and a certain cane thrust into the windpipe of the animal, the heart continued beating for a long while, at least an hour, even after the diaphragm had been cut away in great part, and the pericardium removed from the heart. And from several trials it seemed very probable, that this motion might have been continued as long as there had been any blood left within the vessels of the dog; for the motion of the heart seemed very brisk and lively, after an hour's time, from the first displaying the diaphragm; and, upon removing the bellows, the lungs would presently begin to sink, and the heart begin to have irregular, thick and convulsive motions; but, upon renewing the motion of the bellows, the heart recovered its former motions, and the irregular ones ceased. Though a ligature was made upon all the great vessels, that went into the lower part of the body, we could not find any alteration in the pulse of the heart, the circulation, it seems, being performed some other way. It could not be perceived distinctly, whether the air did mix with the blood passing to the left ventricle of the heart; nor did we in the least find the heart to swell upon the extension of the lungs; nor did the lungs seem to swell upon the contraction of the heart. The physicians of the Society were desired to consider of the pursuing of this experiment, and of the discoveries to be made thereby, especially concerning the communication between the lungs and the heart. I wish heartily you would please to suggest your thoughts hereof, and impart them with the soonest. We insist also upon our experiments of refraction, and found yesterday, that pure sallad oil hath a much greater refraction than any liquor we yet tried, whether common water, salt water, spirit of wine, oil of turpentine. We intend, God willing, to examine all sorts of liquors, and that in their various temper of hot and cold, pure and impure, *&c.* We have had lately good store of discourse concerning star-shoots, Dr. *Merret* giving us the occasion by bringing in some of it, which was much clodded, and had a very rank smell, which he said he could not dissolve by boiling it in water, nor by oil. Some were of opinion it was a fungus-matter, spewed out of the ground, which would have turned into fungus, but that the time for producing that plant was spent: but others were of opinion, that if it were such a matter it would turn to water; wherefore these guessed, it might be some spermatic or abortive matter of beasts, and especially of sheep; confirming their opinion by the observation frequently made, that this substance was not found, but in such places where cattle and sheep had been feeding. Others thought that it might be frogs dissolved; seeing there were sometimes little bones found in it. Dr. *Merret* was charged to endeavour to procure some quantity of it, and to make further experiments upon it.

OUR council is now pressing to have an end of *Chelsea* college, which, we doubt not, but it will prove good; in which case, Mr. *Howard* will be the Society's gardener,

dener, without admitting of any competitor; and Dr. *Wilkins* the weeder. The Society did yesterday chuse Sir *John Cutler* an honorary member, and ordered, that he having declared his resolution to settle upon Mr. *Hook*, during his life, an annual stipend of fifty pounds, and to refer to the society the direction of the kind of employment the stipendiat shall be put upon, should have solemn thanks returned to him for this singular favour, expressed to one of their members, and for the respect and confidence shewed to the whole body; and that Sir *William Petty*, Dr. *Wilkins*, Dr. *Whistler*, and captain *Graunt*, should attend the said Sir *J. Cutler*, in the name of the Society, and to represent to him what a sense they have of his generosity, which they have the more reason to value, as being the first donation they have been entrusted with of this kind, and which they hope will procure a leading example to others.

THE bishop of *Exeter* was yesterday amongst us, and did very solicitously enquire of me concerning your health, desiring me to assure you of his humble service.

THE duke of *York* is now upon the point of going, if he be not gone already, to sea, accompanied with many gallants, as the dukes of *Monmouth*, *Buckingham*, the marquis *de Duras*, &c. We wish only these courtiers may please the seamen, who love neither ceremony nor imperiousness. We have intelligence that the *Dutch* have a fleet in *France*, consisting of about three hundred merchant-men, laden with wines, brandy, salt and corn; which, if they shall come home, must be secured by an armed fleet of their countrymen, passing through the Channel, to meet and convey them home; which cannot but cause an encounter of the two fleets, and consequently, as affairs are now heightened, blows. Yet, upon consideration of all circumstances, I can hardly persuade myself that the *Dutch* will fight, seeing they venture their all, whilst they stand single and alone, as, to human appearance, they now do, both *France* and *Spain* courting *England*, and *Sweden* being ready to assist *England* much rather than *Holland*; and *Denmark* having not any considerable power nor inclination to do them any good. In the mean time, these *Dutch* have made sure of a very substantial provision to maintain the war, in case they be necessitated to undergo it, they having taken a course to be furnished with about 800,000 *l.* sterling a year for that purpose, as long as the war lasteth; and the people being unanimously willing to give the 200th penny; there being also order taken, to build every year, for some time, a considerable number of men of war, of third and fourth rate ships, which are those that do most service.

HIS majesty hath sent away the lord *Fitzharding* for *France*, as envoy extraordinary, to negotiate business there of no ordinary consequences, as every body thinks.

The king of *France* is resolved to maintain *Gigeri*, *couste qu'il couste*. He saith, * * * * * * *gloire*, *& que tout les despens*, *qu'il fait en ce regard la* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * you have by this time received the printed sheets; and that you are to impart more copy as soon as conveniently you can. Nothing of the *Latin* concerning the thermometrical part is, as yet, gone to the press; but might now be begun, if I durst venture it without your review. I have met with some particulars in the already printed *English* sheets, of whose correctness, as to the matter itself, I did doubt; but I do not question but you will meet with them in your reading them over; and if any thing be amiss, let notice be taken thereof, that it may be put in the errata. I am in haste,

SIR,

your faithful humble servant,

H. O.

SIR,

SIR, *London, Nov.* 17, 1664.

MY not returning you a copy this week for the late original papers you have been pleaſed to leave ſo readily among the records of the Society, (which civility I am again to acknowledge to you in their name) would trouble me much, if this conſideration did not eaſe me, that you would take in good part ſome little delay which the preſent croud of employments, put by the Society upon their amanuenſis, indiſpenſably requires. For he being to enter many things into their books, before the approaching ſolemn day of election, and to write fair their charter, laws, liſt of fellows, *&c.* and to prepare a book for his majeſty's inſcription, and many other things and tranſcripts, that bear no delay, lying upon his hands, it was not poſſible for him to make a copy for you this week, which yet, I hope, ſhall be ready the next. I am ſorry the diſſector of the double child did not put his name to the account he gave of the operation; and we muſt contrive ſome way or other to have it yet done, for the more authenticneſs of the relation, now it is to be recorded by a Royal Society of ſevere philoſophers. I rejoice to find anatomical experiments and obſervations ſo well purſued, both here and at *Oxford*, perſuading myſelf, we ſhall at length find out more for the uſe of reſpiration, and the account upon which it is ſo abſolutely neceſſary, than ever was done. Will it not be made out at laſt, that life is a kind of ſubtil and fine flame? to which the air muſt be applied, to keep both it in motion, and the blood wherein it reſideth, which thence looks florid and ſprightly, when the air having been mingled with it, as it were, *per minima*, paſſeth along with it into the left ventricle of the heart, and thence into the arteries; after which, when the blood returns into the veins, it there begins to change its countenance, and looks dull and torpid, till it come again to the place which can revive it. Thoſe particulars, which your ingenious gentleman promiſed you an account of in writing, I muſt put you in mind of, and beg a ſight of them for our Society, who is much pleaſed with whatſoever comes from you, it being conſtantly of conſiderable weight. They proſecute diligently the experiments of refraction, and find, by what they have already done, cauſe to think, that the ſimpleſt liquors have the leſſer, and thoſe that conſiſt of ſeveral and differing parts, the greater refraction. We tried yeſterday with hot and cold common water, and they had an equal refraction; and then with ſalt water, whoſe refraction was two degrees greater than the former waters. Our preſident did urge, that both fixed and volatile ſalts ſhould be with ſeveral degrees, or quantities rather diſſolved in water, to ſee how the refractions vary, and thence to learn by the degrees of refractions the quantity of ſalt contained in liquors. We ſhall, God willing, proceed to all kinds of oils, wines, coloured and turbid waters, aqua regis, aqua fortis, milk; and, if we can contrive it, to the refractions of ſmokes and ſteams.

MY lord *Brouncker* acquainted the company yeſterday, that he finds by ſtrict obſervations, for a long time continued, that by his barometers he knows as well the temper of the air, for its heat and cold, as for its preſſure and gravity, affirming, that the air had been very well exhauſted in them.

MR. *Howard* produced a ſubſtance, taken out of the grave of a man that had been dead thirty years, and was in a manner all waſted, but that a piece of fat remained about the place of his belly, of which his preſent was a ſmall portion, which, being put upon the fire, burned and ſmelled like fat. We had a couple of your *Oxonian* doctors of phyſic amongſt us yeſterday, Dr. *Millington*, and Dr. *Needham*, the latter whereof related to us how that at *Oxford* they had by blowing into the receptaculum chyli continued the pulſe of the heart, without (if I miſtook not) the exerciſe of the lungs. We did amongſt other things appoint a meeting on *Monday* next with ſome

ſome merchants of the *Eaſt India* company, upon information received, that ſome of them having been in the *Eaſt Indies* themſelves, and being very well able to anſwer to our enquiries, drawn up for theſe parts, had declared a great readineſs to ſerve the Society with what they knew of thoſe particulars. Our preſident intends to be there himſelf, and we ſhould all be glad to have you one of the number: but this is much more a matter of wiſh than hope. I had on *Tueſday* laſt the firſt fruits of my new correſpondence with the *Pariſian* gentleman I lately mentioned to you. He ſent me a pretty big packet, containing both pamphlets and books, all polemical, both in divinity and philoſophy. Thoſe of divinity concern the conteſt betwixt Janſeniſts and Jeſuiſts, whereof the former fall upon the latter without mercy, and ſeem to me to do them more miſchief than ever was done to them by the whole body of proteſtants ſince the reformation. One piece of this kind is called, *Examen de la lettre circulaire de l'aſſemblée tenue à Paris, Oct.* 2, 1663, which layeth the pope's infallibility, ſo much contended for by the Jeſuits, upon mere political grounds, as flat as proteſtants could do. Another is entitled, *Les pernicieuſes conſequences de la nouvelle hereſie des Jeſuites, contre le roy & contre l'eſtat.* This muſt needs make all kings, princes, and ſtates, more afraid of this order and the ſeeds they ſow, than ever they were. The third is, *en vers burleſque*, under the name of *Onguent pour la brulure, ou, le ſecret pour empeſcher les Jeſuites de bruler les livres.* The philoſophical pieces are two; one is medicinal, called, *La phyſique d'uſage, contenant, apres un diſcours general ſur la medecine, la deſcription du corps humane; puis l'explication des maladies & de leur remedes, tirée des principes de la mechanique & de la philoſophie de Mr. Deſcartes, par meſſieurs d'Orlix & Plempius.* In which I find the latter part to be little elſe than a tranſlation of that *Latin* piece, which about a twelvemonth ſince I received from *Paris*, and gave you a view of. But the other book is a very bold piece, undertaking to refute *Paſcal*'s little book *de la peſonteur de l'air*, and with him all his partiſans, as he calls them. I had ſent it you by the next carrier, but that the Society yeſterday deſired their preſident to peruſe it, and give them his ſenſe thereof. I am of opinion, the author will rather beget ſport than trouble to intelligent readers, who will hardly hold ſmiling at the title of his book, which is, *La verité du vuide contre la vuide de la verité, ou l'on decouvre la veritable cauſe des effets, qui juſques icy ont eſté attribuez a l'horreur de vuide, contrer l'erreur, qui les attribue a la peſanteur de la maſſe de l'air: par le P. Charles Bourgonis, religieux Auguſtin, a Paris*, 1664. He ſeems to be a great aſſertor of vacuum, affirming, that nature is ſo far from abhorring it, that ſhe loves and cheriſhes it, and can by no means be without it. I doubt he hath a great deal of it in his head. He is very poſitive, that all the phænomena, which uſed to be aſcribed to the fuga vacui, come from nothing elſe but *de la difficulté de rarifier les liqueurs (y comprenant l'air) que eſt plus grande* (ſaith he) *ou moindre, ſelon la diverſité de leur natures: & 2. de la tres intime union des corps fluides avec les ſolides, & des fluides avec des fluides, de ſemblable ou de diverſes eſpeces, quand ils ſont contigus, & qu'ils ſe touchent immediatement.* And ſo he makes all the things, which the vulgar hath hitherto attributed to the abhorrency of a void, and monſieur *Paſcal* to the weight of the air, the effects of rarefaction. He names you often in the book, and refers to your experiments, as they have been alledged by *Paſcal*; and he maketh it his buſineſs to maintain, that though the air have weight in itſelf, yet it actually weighs not, becauſe it is faſtened and glued to the heavens, *qu'il touche & eſt uni à la premiere ſphere.*

SIR, I muſt not conclude without telling you, that I have delivered your letter to Mr. *Evelyn*, and acquainted Mr. *Crook* with your orders, who tells me, that he diſpatches the printed ſheets away as faſt as he can by coach or carrier. He ſaith withal, that his preſs hath ſtood ſtill this whole week; and he hath given to Mr.

Hook thoſe ſheets that mention the ſchemes, which will be done according to your deſire. The *Latin* tranſlation of the preliminary Diſcourſes is near an end; and, ſince you give way to it, ſhall go to the preſs immediately. I am called upon to conſider with ſome company, of a roll of papers ſent to me by Mr. *Beale*, about the aſſerting and eſtabliſhing the reputation of the Society, both at home and abroad; and I am ſure I ſhall eaſe you by ſaying no more, ſince I have ſcribbled ſo much, than that I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

I HUMBLY thank you, Sir, for your *Turkiſh* ſheet, and ſo will, I am confident, meſſieurs *de Geer* and *Serrarius*.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 19, 1664.

THOUGH I gave you the trouble of a letter but very lately, yet could I not omit to haſten this after it, to acquaint you, that the ſequel of the Hiſtory of Cold is ſince my laſt come to my hands, and at this very time under the preſs, which will, we hope, bring the reſt hither as ſoon as may be. I have alſo delivered to another preſs, the beginning of the *Latin* tranſlation of the thermometrical Paradoxes, which will, I believe, be wholly diſpatched in a fortnight, and does therefore deſire your directions for a title, and, if you think it neceſſary, ſome preface. This was the errand of this ſcribble; but ſince I have begun, I am reſolved not to end with the beginning, but to give you the ſum of what the *French* poſt brought me ſince *Thurſday*. It is no leſs than the total loſs of *Gigery*, and of 48 guns with the king of *France*'s arms upon them, the *Moors* having with ſuch a number and vigour aſſaulted it, that the *French* were not able to bear up againſt them. This doth ſo nettle the king, that he is reſolved both to puniſh the authors of the miſcarriage, and to attempt another place with 20,000 men the next ſpring. *At multa cadunt inter calicem ſupremaque labra.* This is a conſiderable check to his fierceneſs, and is like to do him more miſchief than perhaps he is aware of.

THE queen of *France* is brought to bed of a daughter of eight months, which hath the ſhape of a *Moor*, and ſomewhat of that complexion; whence that king is ſo enraged, that he hath baniſhed all the *Moors*, dwarfs, and monkies, from his court, the queen having a little *Moor* about her, that ſeems to have ſo tainted her imagination, as to give ſuch a colour and ſuch features that reſemble him. In the mean time the queen hath been very dangerouſly ill, and was given over by the phyſicians; but that madam *de Fouquet* came and preſented a medicine, which ſhe exalted highly as ſuch an one that would infallibly cure her, by bringing away the ſecondina, which had caſt the queen into ſuch convulſions, as made her caſe appear deſperate. My letter ſaith thus: *Le medecins l'examineront, & quoy qu'ils ne ſoyent pas ordinairement favorables aux remedes, qu'ils n'ont pas ſuggeré eux meſmes, neantmoins ſoit qu'ils le jugeaſſent innocent, ou que par un reſte d'amitié pour monſieur Fouquet ils le vouluſſent favoriſer, ils trouverent bon, qu'elle donna ſon remede, qui fit de ſe admirables effets, que la reyne vuida entierement l'arriereſais, & fut extraordinairement ſoulageé, en ſorte qu'elle dit au roy, qu'elle ne tenoit la vie, que de mademoiſelle Fouquet. Les amis de ſon mary eſperent que cela produira quelque bon effect pour luy.* I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

HENRY OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 24, 1664.

WHAT was deferred to this week, you will find performed by the papers annexed; but how we shall get Mr. *Hann*'s name of his own writing to his own account, I know not, unless he be pleased by your solicitation to send us another draught of the same signed with his own hand. The Society always intended, and I think hath practised hitherto, what you recommended concerning the registering of time, when any observation or experiment is first mentioned; and they upon this occasion have declared it again, that it should be punctually observed: in regard of which monsieur *de Zulichem* hath been written to, to communicate freely to the Society what new discoveries he maketh, or what new experiments he trieth, the Society being very careful of registering as well the person and time of any new matter imparted to them, as the matter itself; whereby the honour of the invention will be inviolably preserved to all posterity. I know not whether as I intended, and was commanded, desire your favour of acquainting Mr. *Hann* with the Society's being very well pleased with his curious diligence in his late dissection and observation, as they send you their hearty thanks for that communication. If I have forgot it, I beseech you to receive it now, and to take notice of what I have hinted of respect to Mr. *Hann*. Indeed I shall not have so much time left as to read over the amanuensis his transcript, if I shall say all what I have to say to you at this time. No account yet of the *Florentine* experiments, however they were promised me to be sent with the packet received. My new correspondent, I hope, will be more punctual, if I can but be so to him. He hath given me notice by his last, that they have a design in *France* to publish from time to time a journal of all what passeth in *Europe* in matter of knowledge, both philosophical and political: in order to which they will print, as he saith, (to give it you in his own words:) 1. *Tous les livres, qui se sont imprimés depuis l'annee* 1664, *& ceux, qui s'imprimeront à l'advenir, soit qu'ils soient imprimés de nouveau, ou qu'ils soyent reinprimez sur quelque ancienne edition.* 2. *Toutes les experiences & nouvelles descouvertes, qui se font dans tous les arts & toutes les sciences, physique, astronomie, chymie, medicine, &c.* 3. *Le nom & les qualités des personnes, qui excellent en toutes sortes de sciences & arts, les ouvrages, qu'ils ont faits, & ceux, qu'ils se proposent de faire; la mort de gens de lettres de quelque reputation; les choses principales de leur vie avec le catalogue de tout ce qu'ils auront donné au public, pour en pouvoir composer l'eloge.* 4. *Les academies & bibliotheques plus celebres, & ce qui se trouve de rare & de beau dans les cabinets des personnes curieuses.* 5. *Les contestations, qui surviennent entres les scavans, & les belles questions, qui se peuvent presenter devant mesme qu'on en ait rien escrit.* 6. *Les decisions les plus notables des tribunaux eccleśiastiques & seculiers. Enfin, tout ce qui se passe d'extraordinaire dans la republique des lettres, & qu'on jugera digne de la curiosité de ceux, qui font profession d'estude.*

IN order to the execution of which design, I am solicited to contribute what I can concerning *England*, and what is found there as to excellent persons, things, books; being promised to be paid in the like coin from *France*, of what passeth there and in *Italy*, concerning those particulars. I am very unwilling to decline this task; but yet how to undertake it, being so very single, and having so much already charged upon me, I do not yet know. But I must remember my motto, *Providebit Dominus.*

WE had yesterday at our assembly a noble appearance, and as much life as I ever saw there; and no question this Society would prove a mighty and important body, if they had but any competent stock to carry on their designs; and if all the members thereof could but be induced to contribute every one their part and talent, for the growth, and health and welfare of their own body, which, methinks, is one of the most reasonable things in the world, and consequently should be easy to be per-

ſuaded to thoſe that make profeſſion of reaſon and virtue. Our liſts for *Nov.* 30, were ſent abroad on *Tueſday* laſt; and we are ſorry that that which was deſigned for you, could not find you at *London* nor *Chelſea*. There have been lately elected into the Society, Sir *Robert Atkins* the younger, Mr. *Godolphin*, Mr. *Bagnall*, Mr. *Thyn*, Mr. *Hoare* comptroller of the Mint, Mr. *Woodfort*, Sir *John Cutler*, (Mr. *Hook*'s benefactor) and yeſterday the preſident propoſed Mr. *Harvey*, the queen's treaſurer, for candidate, inſomuch that we are now full 150 men. Mr. *Sprat* intends to begin next week to print the Hiſtory of our inſtitution, which hath been peruſed by lord *Brounker*, Sir *R. Moray*, Dr. *Wilkins*, Mr. *Evelyn*, and others; but we are troubled that you cannot have a ſight of it before the publication. I ſee the author hath divided his diſcourſe into three general heads: the firſt giving a ſhort view of the ancient and modern philoſophy, and of the moſt famous attempts that have been made for its advancement; that by obſerving wherein others have excelled, and wherein they have been thought to fail, it may the better be ſhewn, what is to be expected from our new undertakers, and what moved them to enter upon a way of enquiry, different from that on which the former have proceeded. The ſecond conſiſts of the narrative itſelf, and out of the regiſters and journals of the Society, which the author hath been permitted to peruſe, relateth the firſt occaſions of their meetings, the encouragement and patronage which they have received, their patent, their ſtatutes, the whole order and ſcheme of their deſign, and the manner of their proceedings. The third trieth to aſſert the advantage and innocence of this work, in reſpect of all profeſſions, and religion itſelf; and how proper, above others, is it for the preſent temper of the age wherein we live. I muſt confeſs the ſtile is excellent, even, full, unaffected; but I know not whether there be enough ſaid of particulars, or, to ſpeak more truly, whether there are performances enough for a Royal Society, that hath been at work ſo conſiderable a time.

I FIND I have digreſſed, I know not how, from what I would have mentioned above, when I hinted to you the vigour of our yeſterday's meeting. I would have acquainted you with the ſeveral ſubjects of our entertainment; as 1. of the account which our preſident brought in out of *Iceland*, *viz.* that the mountains of ice are generally ſuppoſed to have their firſt matter from the freſh water falling from the mountains of *Greenland*, and being frozen before they come into the ſea, they then receive the impulſes of the ſalt water, which being broken by its own violence, is ſoon frozen to the firſt freſh cruſt, which by northern winds are driven down to *Iceland*, and by reiterated combats with the waves augment their bigneſs to thirty-five, and ſometimes forty fathoms beneath the water: I am certainly informed (ſaith the writer) by a very ſkilful and honeſt maſter, that he obſerved one of theſe mountains of ice to ground, and ſoon after upon the ſide it floated away, and he went directly to the place and ſounded, and found it thirty-five fathoms; and another, by the ſame experiment, had found it in another place forty fathoms. Theſe iſlands, he adds, do yet receive a farther increaſe from the ſnow, which being melted by rains, and then frozen again, do make the upper part very hard and compact, and in height above the water eight, ten, and ſometimes twelve feet. As to the tides, he ſaith, that they riſe and fall unequally in the ſeveral parts, as here in *England*, but very ſeldom above three feet, for the moſt part two, or two and a half: the ſpring and common tides happen much about the ſame time as they do here. Meats boiled or roaſted retain that accidental heat there, more than twice as long as here. The magnetical needle varies unequally, declining faſter (but ſtill unequally) as they come near the land. There is no wood which grows there, except birch, which ſeldom grows big enough to be ſerviceable for building; but they are in ſome meaſure ſupplied with good fir-trees,

trees, blown upon their coasts, but not any satisfaction hath been given from whence they come. The bodies of the sun and moon seem much larger there than here: the moon hath appeared within fourteen hours after the change.

THE nations are strong, healthy, and very kind, though unhewn and dirty. Turf is their common firing, and the cover of their houses. Whey, when it is sour, is their beer; and stock-fish is their bread; and beef and mutton (if it die alone) is their food; for then, they say, it is of Christ's own killing, and ought to be reckoned in the number of delicacies.

ANOTHER letter in *Latin* and *Greek*, a great part whereof consists in *Icelandian* compliments, mentions these particulars: *Nullus pinguis liquor gelu apud nos corripitur, neque spiritus vini: gelu, ubi maximè, tres pedes penetrat terram, sæpissimè duos. Fontes calidi hìc multi, adeò ferventes, ut ad dimidium horæ caro bovina, ollæ cum frigida aqua impositæ, satis decoquatur, nedum ut sufficiat ad deplumandam avem. Agricultura apud nos nulla, vaccæ fœno hyeme vivunt; equi, oves, gramine, quod à nive liberum est sæpissimè.* After these letters, we had two experiments of refraction made upon oil of turpentine and sallad oil, whereof the former (the angle of inclination being 30.) had its angle of refraction 16. 50′. the latter (at the same angle of inclination) had an angle of refraction 46. 29′. This occasioned a great deal of good and quick discourse, and brought in a list of experiments to be tried of refraction; as to examine the refraction answering to several degrees of inclination. To examine the comparative refraction of several liquors to common water; as of all sorts of oils made by expression or distillation, all kinds of saline and spirituous liquors; and to do this with several degrees of inclination. To examine how much the refractions of liquors are altered by mixing of several liquors together, that do, as it were, penetrate each other; as having examined the refraction of oil of vitriol and common water each of them apart, to mix them together, and to find what is the compounded refraction, by mixing also of acid and sulphureous liquors, *&c.* To examine further the refraction of liquors, wherein hath been dissolved a determinate quantity of some kind of salt, as of sea salt, common salt, salt-petre, alum, vitriol, alcali, tartar, *&c.* Again, to examine the comparative refraction of a liquor, when a greater quantity of the same salt is dissolved in it, and when a less; as also the refraction of a liquor, when two or more liquors have been dissolved in it: item, the refraction of several liquors, wherein colours have been dissolved. And then to proceed to examine the refraction of all kinds of solid bodies, as diamonds, crystal, glass, ice, gummous and resinous substances, horn, arsenic, and all other transparent bodies. Item, the refraction of several coloured glasses, and to find by what means the refraction of glass may be augmented or diminished; and to examine also the refraction and structure of the several humours and parts of the eye; and to observe the refraction of the air of several densities; and finally to examine what will be the best figure and the best material to make dioptric lenses. You see, Sir, what a field we have here before us. This being over, an account was brought in of a viper dissected by Mr. *Hook*, according to a former order of the Society; the notable particulars whereof, because I guess the dissector himself will acquaint you with, I must not anticipate. Only this I cannot hold to say, that the lungs were a very curious and admirable workmanship, being blown up by a small pipe; extending themselves from the throat beyond the gall, and being nothing but one continued bladder, not seeming to have any kind of partition or parenchyma, but only to consist a very thin skin, whereof the upper part looked almost like a net, but the under part like a film, as clear as the bladder of a carp, without any kind of vessel or muscles in it, though examined by

by a microſcope. This experiment will, and ought to be proſecuted, and may conduce much to the enquiry about reſpiration.

OUR preſident gave, after this, an account to the company of the Anti-Paſcalian book, which I ſhall ſend you by the firſt coach, which will be to-morrow. His lordſhip obſerved, that he did not ſo much refute *Paſcal*, as bring in another hypotheſis; whereby he could indeed ſolve all the phænomena, but, as he thought, not ſo rationally as it was done the other way; putting all upon the ſtreſs of rarefaction, and the motus nexûs, an hypotheſis inconceivable to conſidering men. His lordſhip was very ready to comply with what you deſired in your letter, and drew up, with his own hand, as you ſee the annexed account about the barometers. He was earneſt with me, not to forget the preſentment of his humble ſervice to you; and he added ſuch expreſſions concerning the eſteem his lordſhip hath for you, that no man can have greater: and when upon your return hither you ſhall know all, you will then ſay, I have ſaid too little of it now. I am not able to read over this long rhapſody, no more than the tranſcript of our clerk, leaving all to your goodneſs to pardon the faults of,

SIR,

your very faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, I pray be pleaſed to hint to me, whether the ſame preface will ſerve in differing languages, for the *Latin* thermometrical, and for the *Engliſh* both thermometrical and hiſtorical Treatiſe.

HIS majeſty let the parliament know this day, how ill his neighbours had proved ſince he ſaw the parliament laſt; what preparation he had made to reduce them to reaſon, and the charges thereof (800,000 *l.* ſterl.) and his happineſs of doing it upon his own credit; together with the aſſurance he had that they would do quickly what they had promiſed to do, when they voted to aſſiſt him with their lives and fortunes in the undertaking of the war, and the carrying of it on; and that he was reſolved to make no peace, but upon a firm bottom of the nation's honour and welfare to that purpoſe.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 26, 1664.

YOUR laſt came very ſeaſonably, and all will be rectified and filled up according to your directions and ſupplies, both in the *Engliſh* and *Latin*. I hope you will diſpatch to us all the remainder, belonging to the Hiſtory of Cold, before the week's diverſion comes in; our Society having already, by the late froſt, excited one another to the proſecution of experiments of freezing, and mention having been there made of your hiſtory that is a printing, for variety of excellent materials to work upon. I do here incloſe my draught for the publication of your thermometrical preliminaries; wherein I doubt I come far ſhort of what ſhould be ſaid, and particularly about the communication of the ſealed thermometer, and the barometer; concerning which, ſince I have not the perfect and certain knowledge of their firſt inventor, I have minced, as you ſee, the intimation I give of it; entreating you that you would oblige me, by your private pen, to make ſuch additions and alterations as you ſhall find neceſſary, and ſo to ſend it back ſpeedily, I having no copy of it.

I SEND here annexed, his majeſty's ſpeech, which I took from Mr. *Herringman* for you, thinking you would be very well pleaſed to read, with the firſt, ſo kingly and ſo prudent a ſpeech; which had ſo great an effect, that yeſterday, which was the very next

next day after, the parliament voted for the king and the carrying on of the war 2,500,000 *l.* to be raiſed by aſſeſſments. If our neighbours could any way handſomely recoil, they would do it with all their hearts; and their ambaſſador never had a more uncomfortable ſupper than he had yeſternight, when the news was brought him of ſo mighty a vote, the like was never given for any *Engliſh* king. It is thought the ſword will not be put up now, till his majeſty be fully poſſeſſed of the dominion at ſea, and the diſpoſal of trade. It may produce at laſt that coalition, which hath been formerly deſigned by *England*. That righteouſneſs may be the foundation, and that proteſtantiſm may receive no diſadvantage, and that at length a good peace may cement all again, is the hearty wiſh of,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, I humbly thank you for your preſent of *Stillingfleet*'s new book. Since you are pleaſed to make it by way of a dilemma, I take the freedom of embracing that part of it which is moſt for my advantage, thinking I may make a good uſe of it, as a *Pariſian*.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 3, 1664.

IN hope that the time of the reſpite, lately reſerved to yourſelf, will be near expired, when this ſhall come to your hands, I made no great ſcruple to overtake it, eſpecially ſince the chief occaſion of this letter is the incloſed, which containeth an account that you and your Chriſtian friends will not be diſpleaſed with. It came from *Amſterdam* to me, by a ſpecial friend, ſince my laſt to you; but it ſeems, that at that time when it was written, my letter to our correſpondents there, which was a cover to the printed *Turkiſh* ſheet, I ſent thither by your favour, was not yet come to their hands. It appears by the beginning of this copy of *Warnerus*'s letter, that he intends to tranſlate the New Teſtament, as he hath done the Old: wherefore it fell out very opportunely, that we diſpatched to *Amſterdam* a pattern of what is done here in that particular, perſuading myſelf that they will with all ſpeed tranſmit the notice of it to *Conſtantinople*, to the end that the ſaid *Warnerus* may not *actum agere*. I do intreat you, Sir, that you would oblige me to have this *Latin* letter ſpeedily tranſcribed, if you ſhall have further occaſion of it than to read it, that I may have it returned the next week to me, who had no time at all to take another copy of it.

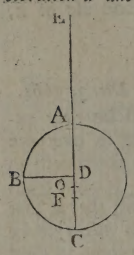
MR. *Crook* was extremely ſurpriſed, when I read to him what you ſaid in your laſt about the ſlowneſs of ſending you the printed ſheets of your book, proteſting to me, that he had ſent you all on *Monday* laſt, what was then printed off; and aſſuring, that on *Monday* next you ſhould not fail to receive two ſheets more, which would make in all ſeventeen ſheets, if I miſtake not, the laſt ſheet being *S*, though I have at this time *T* alſo by me, to review it, to print it off on *Monday* next. I perceive by Mr. *Crook*, that Dr. *Merret* thinks you will, both in the title of the book, and in the preface, take notice of his appendix; to which I made anſwer, that I did not doubt but you would do ſo.

I CONCEIVE it neceſſary, if your leiſure would permit, to give yourſelf the trouble, in the peruſal of the printed ſheets ſent you of your Hiſtory of Cold, to ſet down the miſtakes that will occur here and there, notwithſtanding all the care that hath been taken in the correcting. For, though I have marked ſome of them (which yet are but

but very few) yet there are ſome paſſages which I did not well ſee the ſenſe of, at the leaſt it ſeemed imperfect to me; and they were p. 48. unto the word *Beſides*; item, p. 239. N° 3. lin. where a word ſeems wanting to determine the meaſure of the *Bolthead*; item, p. 83. I deſire to know what is underſtood by *unfreezing liquors*; whether ſuch as do not cauſe, or thoſe that do not ſuffer congelation? item, p. 266. Q. whether there be not a word omitted or miſwritten in N° III.

I SHALL ſay no more for this time, than that Mr. *Zulichem*, in a late letter of his to Sir *R. Moray*, hath given us this account concerning an univerſal meaſure, which I beg may be even communicated to Dr. *Wallis*, with my humble ſervice, and whereupon I expect both your ſenſe. Theſe are his own words:

Pour ce qui eſt de la regle de my lord Brounker des pendules iſochrones, qu'il a pris la peine d'eſcrire dans le billet, que vous m'avez envoyé, elle s'accorde avec la miene en ce, qui eſt du mouvement de largeur des figures planes, mais ne s'eſtend pas à l'autre mouvement, que j'appelle lateral des meſmes figures, ou il y a beaucoup plus de difficulté, ny auſſi aux mouvements des corps ſolides, ou il y en a encor d'avantage. Vous m'avez deſia communiqué autrefois ce qu'il avoit determiné pour la meaſure univerſelle. Mais pour n'eſtre point obligé à une certaine proportion de grandeur de ſphere à la longueur de pendule, il eſt utile de ſcavoir le centre de vibration d' une ſphere pendue à quelque longueur de fil que ce ſoit, lequel centre je mettray icy



comment ſe trouve. Soit la ſphere A B C, dont le centre D, pendu au fillet A E, attaché en E, el faut trouver aux lignes E D, D B, la troiſieme proportionelle D F, de la quelle D O, faiſant les $\frac{2}{5}$, je dis, que O, eſt le centre de vibration de cette ſphere ainſi ſuſpendue, c'eſt à dire, que ſes vibrations ſeront iſocrochrones à un pendule ſimple, dont le plomb eſt conſideré comme ſans grandeur, de la longueur de E O. Tellement que pour la meaſure univerſelle il ſuffit, devoir quelque ſphere ſuſpendue, qui faſſe des vibrations d'une ſeconde ou demi-ſeconde, les plus peſantes & grandes eſtants les meilleures, à cauſe de la reſiſtance de l'air. Je trouve cette longueur E O fort exactement de 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ pouces de Rhynlande, lorſque les vibrations ſont de demi-ſecondes.

THIS account was lately under the conſideration of the Society; and, when it was ſpoken of at their meeting, order was given that it ſhould be punctually regiſtered at the ſame time when it was firſt mentioned, to the end that Mr. *Huygens* might have his due, and that his inventions be recorded for his honour to poſterity, as well as the inventions of the *Engliſh* virtuoſi. This juſtice and generoſity of our Society is exceedingly commendable, and doth rejoice me, as often as I think of it, chiefly upon this account, that I thence perſuade myſelf, that all ingenious men will be thereby encouraged to impart their knowledge and diſcoveries as far as they may, not doubting of the obſervance of the old law, of *ſuum cuique tribuere*. I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 10, 1664.

I WAS lately deſired by my lord *Brounker* to acquaint you, beſides his humble ſervice, with your being elected into the company for the royal mines, and into that of battery, who will therefore be very glad, as well as *Greſham* college, to ſee you here with the ſooneſt. I found by my lord *Brounker*, that he would have been better pleaſed with your thoughts concerning his notes upon the real phænomena, than with your thanks. I told his lordſhip when I perceived this, (though it was only by

by way of gueſs) that I ſuppoſed he would have your opinion upon the whole matter from your own mouth, at your return hither, which I hoped would be within a few days. At our laſt meeting (of which I could give you an account no ſooner than to-day, by reaſon of many impediments taking me off till now) we were entertained partly by ſeveral experiments of refraction, made with vitriol, ſaltpetre, alum, whereof the two former ſuffered a little more, and the laſt a great deal leſs refraction than common water; partly, by trials made with pendulums, according to Mr. *Zulichem*'s rule, formerly ſent you, for an univerſal meaſure, which will require more experiments; partly, with the reading of a pretty long dedication, made by Mr. *Joſeph Glanville* to the Royal Society, and prefixed to his book (which was at the ſame time preſented them by lord *Brereton*) intitled, *Scepſis Scientifica*, or *Confeſt Ignorance the way to Science*. In which dedication the author expreſſeth a very great reſpect to the ſaid body and their deſign; which I was very glad, and ſo were others, to find to be ſo well underſtood, at laſt, by ſome, though I fear the great expectation he raiſeth of their enterpriſe, may be of more prejudice than advantage to them, if they be not competently endowed with a revenue to carry on their undertakings. Theſe particulars thronging in one upon another, and conſuming all our time, left me none, at that aſſembly, to acquaint the company neither with your conſiderable anatomical obſervation, nor with Mr. *Auſtin*'s propoſals, both which I am perſuaded they will be very well pleaſed with; and the latter, I think, you will not judge amiſs to have it repreſented and recommended to them, to conſider of the carrying of it on; which I intend, God permitting, to do at our next meeting.

MR. *Henſhaw* (which in my former I intended to have given you notice of, but forgot it) brought lately in an account, concerning the nature of frogs ſpawn, from his own obſervation and experiment, which the company was much ſatisfied with; but it being pretty prolix I ſhall not ſwell a letter with it, but reſerve the communication to your return.

I HAD no news from *France* this week. Our news at home is, that the parliament is exceedingly divided concerning the way of raiſing that ſum of money they have voted: yeſterday they were mighty warm, and one of their number told me they would be very hot this day upon that ſubject; and that yeſterday the manner of raiſing it by way of ſhip-money was ſo much urged, that the court party carried it that way by ſome, though but few votes; the country gentlemen proteſting (ſome of them) that they dare not return into their country if it be impoſed after that rate; and one of theſe affirming to me, that he had ſaid it plainly in the houſe, they ſhould take him, his wife and children, and ſend him rather in a ſhip againſt the *Dutch*, than back into his country, if they would take that courſe. This conteſt and diſagreement will put the *Dutch* into ſome heart again, eſpecially if it be true, what is now reported, that the king of *France* will, according to the league, aſſiſt them at leaſt with very conſiderable ſums of money, and with men if they need them. *Scotland* is mightily averſe from the war, and that upon the account of the deſtruction of all their trade and traffick with the *Dutch*, they having none or very little with *England*.

I HOPE, if I receive the favour of one letter more from you before your coming home, you will forbid more writing to,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

I RECEIVED the two laſt titles; and have given order for the ſcheme touching the conſervatory of ſnow.

SIR, [*June* 1665.]

I ESTEEM it very hard fortune, not to see you before you went out of town: I know not what fatality there was in it that we could not meet, how much soever I endeavoured it. I confess, my occasions of late have very much engaged me to be out of the way, and at the other end of *London*; but yet I did very often enquire in the mornings at my lady *Ranelagh*'s whether you were in town, but could not hit the time when you were so. If I had but been advertised any day before of an hour convenient for you, I would have contrived my affairs so as to have waited on you. I should have expressed my thanks for the favour of your communications concerning the comet, and the receipt against the sickness (which I beseech you to accept of herewith) and enquired what quantity is to be taken of that medicine of *Septalius*, which, I hope, you will please to signify at your first conveniency. I did also intend to have had some discourse with you concerning Mr. *Borreel*, of whom I understood, some weeks since, that he was very sick, and not likely to recover. I can only say this of him at the present, that I wrote to *Amsterdam*, and entreated him to consign his writings, that concern the proof of the Christian religion, to such hands, that we might have a copy thereof at least: whereupon I had this answer; that he had taken care for that particular, and that you and I should have a copy thereof, if care were taken, and the expences borne to transcribe it: to which I returned, that I was persuaded you would accept of that condition; nor do I believe now, that you will give me authority to revoke what I have said.

THE first sheet of the *Latin*, concerning the discourses of thermometers, is printed off; which I also proposed to have shewed you: and if I could have seen you, I would have advised with you what preambles to make to those two other pieces concerning Antiperistasis, and the Examen of Mr. *Hobbes*; for since they are to be separated in the *Latin*, from the main body of the History of Cold, the advertisements prefixed to them seem to require some alteration, which I believe you will, upon looking upon them, agree with me in; and having done so, I promise to myself your care of letting me know your mind about it.

I THINK the Society will adjourn on *Wednesday* next, when I shall, if God permit, acquaint you with their letter, and what was annexed to it. They did order me the other day to enquire of you, whether that colt, whereof you gave them the monstrous head, had no other monstrosity in any other part of its body; some of the company being apt to believe, that if it had not, it might very well be that it had received a forcible kick on the tender head, whereby the eyes were dislodged, and forced into one place. I pray, Sir, resolve this question, if you had the particulars of this colt's whole constitution? I hope you will give me leave to insert it into my next transactions, as also the contents of your letter concerning *Ruta capraria*; and I do entreat your favour and liberality of imparting now and then something, that may enrich these papers, and assist me in continuing them, notwithstanding the discouragement of this sickly season.

MY last news from *Paris* was this. Monsieur *Hevelius a envoyé à monsieur Colbert*, (from whom he hath a pension) *ce qu'il a observé de la comete. Messieurs Auzout & Petit ont trouvé estrange, qu'il l'a faite passer, par ou'elle n'a point esté, & que de plus il ne l'ait point observé au mois de Mars, mais seulement en Fevrier, quoy qu'on l'ait veue ce mois là par tout ailleurs.*

On a fait saigner un homme chez monsieur Bourdelot à qui on a trouvé du lait dans la venie au lieu du sang (I beseech you, Sir, tell me, whether you have met with the like observation.) *On chirurgion ayant arraché une corne, qui estoit venue à la teste d'une femme, elle en est devenue folle.* (And this story is not ordinary.) *Je donnay à un gentilhomme Anglois* (so my friend goes on) *le livre de monsieur Petit sur la comete, où il y a des choses curieuses,*

curieuſes, on imprimera le Redi delle Vipere *icy à Paris: quand il ſera fait, je vous l'envoyeray.*

Je vous avouë (ſo he paſſes to politicals) *qui ſi nos veux eſtoient exaucez, les Anglois ſeroient bien battùs. Quoy qu'il ſoit arrivé, on eſt icy aſſuré, que le combat aura eſté funeſte & ſanglant. Si vous vous joignez à l'Eſpagne, voſtre guerre ne finira pas ſi toſt, & on vous pourra un jour donner de l'exercice.*

SINCE I wrote this, I ſaw a letter of Mr. *Hugenius* to Sir *R. Moray*, wherein he alſo ſeems to be diſſatisfied with monſieur *Hevelius*'s obſervations of the firſt comet. I will give you his own words. *Monſieur Hevelius m'a fait dire, qu'il a fait imprimer un traité du comete premier de* 60 *fueilles in fol. J'en ay vû quelques unes des figures, qui me ſemblent aſſez eſtranges: car,* 1. *Il depient la teſte du comete s'il avoit vuë fort grande & avec de certaines taches dedans, ce qui ne m'a aucunement paru* (Mr. *Hook* affirms to have ſeen ſuch ſpots too) *mais avec mes meilleurs lunettes elle m'a tous jours ſemblé tres petite comme les eſtoiles fixes, excepté la chevelure & à Rome on l'a obſervée de meſme.* 2. *Pour ce qui eſt du cours du comete, il en fait une ligne continuë, qui retourne en elle meſme; d' où je prevoy quelque bigarre hypotheſe: parce qu'il marque cette ligne courbe dans le ciel meſme à travers des ſignes, dont il a donné une figure: mais il faut attendre ſon explication.* I am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, July* 4, 1665.

I MUST haſten to return you my humble thanks for that communication of yours, concerning the *Ruta capraria*; as alſo for what you intend to impart about milky blood; for the mention of the latter of which you do annex a parentheſis, which ſeems to imply your removal from *Oxford*; which, if ſo, I hope it is not for any infection that may have attacked that place, as it hath begun to do many others. The Almighty be entreated to chaſtiſe us in mercy, and diſpoſe our hearts not to abuſe his mercy. To my exceeding grief, our noble preſident's neighbourhood, but two houſes diſtant from his lordſhip's, is infected alſo: I know not whether this dreadful neighbour will occaſion him to alter his thoughts for a removal. It is a great mercy, that *Southwark* and *Rotherhithe*, where ſeamen are ſo numerous, and other people that relate to, and work in the navy, remain ſo free yet of the contagion, that there are not above two houſes ſhut up in thoſe quarters. If it ſhould come into this row where I am, I think I ſhould then change my thoughts, and retire into the country, if I could find a ſojourning corner. In the mean time, I am not a little perplexed concerning the books and papers belonging to the Society, that are all in my cuſtody. All I can think of to do in this caſe, is to make a liſt of them all, and put them up by themſelves in a box, and ſeal them together with a ſuperſcription; that ſo, in caſe the Lord ſhould viſit me, as ſoon as I find myſelf not well, it may be ready to be immediately ſent away out of mine to a ſound houſe, *& ſic deinceps.* But theſe are but ſad ſtories, which I therefore leave, to come to let you know that monſieur *Thevenot* hath ſent you the ſecond tome of his curious voyages in folio, fairly bound, wherein are contained, as far as my curſory peruſal could inform me, ſeveral things not unpleaſing and inſtructive, both for navigation, policy, and natural philoſophy, though moſt of it be but traduction. I intend, God willing, to ſend it to-morrow by the coach or carrier to *Oxford*. There came along with it two diſputations, *Anti-Carteſian* ones, held at *Paris* by the Jeſuits, in their college of *Clermont*; in the one

whereof they endeavour in general to make him and his philosophy ridiculous and absurd, urging him with such consectaries following from his doctrine as these:

1. *Datur infinita multitudo, major infinities aliâ multitudine infinita.* 2. *In rebus naturalibus, non tantum possibile est infinitum actu, sed etiam necessarium.* 3. *Sunt plures in hoc mundo soles, quàm aut arenæ aut pisces* (well put together!) *in oceano.* 4. *Pars non est minor toto.* 5. *Nulla est hujus universi particula, quæ mutare locum possit.* 6. *Tam est immobilis navis, quæ Rhodani cursum sequitur, quàm rupes in terra.* 7. *Si partes hujus, quem spiramus, aëris quiescerent, essent illæ quovis metallo duriores.* 8. *Non magis propriè dicitur Deus creasse cœlum & terram, quàm sitas in ea domos & urbes.* 9. *Nihil addere Deus huic universo potest aut detrahere, ne muscam quidem aut atomum.* 10. *Quò leviora sunt corpora, eò citius aguntur deorsum.* 11. *Plus est in aëre subtilissimo, si bene figitur, quàm in auro, ponderis.* 12. *Fieri naturaliter potest, ut homo reipsa mortuus perinde currat & comedat, ac si mortuus non esset.* 13. *Maximum est, ne brevi sol totus obtenebrescat, periculum.* 14. *Fatigari magis unusquisque debet ab aëre sibi incumbente, quàm fatigetur ab onere gravissimo bajulus.* 15. *Horologium tam ægrotare potest ac interire, quàm equus.* 16. *Fieri vacuum divinâ virtute non potest, quia non potest ab humana mente concipi.* 17. *Nec ferrum à magnete trahitur, nec magnes à ferro.* 18. *Potest ex quolibet fieri quodlibet citra miraculum.* 19. *Idem sidus sine ulla sua mutatione nunc fieri cometa potest, nunc planeta.* 20. *Nolim est id, de quo dubitatur à multis, quàm id, de quo nemo dubitat.*

THESE are some of the many that are charged upon that ingenious philosopher: and, to bring the charge home enough, he sums up all in this thesis: *Ne plura dicam, necesse est, ut & mathematicæ, & philosophiæ & theologiæ displiceat hypothesis Carteſiana. Philosophiæ, cujus omnia principia notionesque multis abhinc seculis communi consensione receptas, evertit. Mathematicæ, quam ad res naturales, quæ sunt alterius generis, explicandas, non sine magna perturbatione ordinis traducit. Theologiæ, quatenus ex hac hypothesi videtur esse consequens, 1. Nimium aliquanto tribui corpusculis fortuitò concurrentibus; quod favet Atheis. 2. Nihil esse necessarium, substantialem in homine formam admittere; quod impiis & disciplinæ salutioris amantibus favet. 3. Nullam fieri in eucharistia conversionem panis & vini in ipsum Christi corpus ac sanguinem, nec assignari, quid in illa conversione destruatur, posse; quod favet hæreticis.* Who would not, for the most of these reasons, be the more enamoured with the *Carteſian* principles?

THE other disputation is entitled, *De duplici cometa, vero & ficto, positiones mathematicæ:* wherein that particular opinion of *Des Cartes* concerning comets is disputed against, and that hypothesis, which compounds comets out of a congress of many stars, contended for; which latter, it seems, hath been expunged at *Paris*, by a *Carteſian*, who, together with his master, must therefore smart for such an attempt.

I AM promised other, and I hope better things than these from *Paris*, which shall be at your service, if God permit.

DR. *Beale* (who received authority for that title, together with that of royal chaplain, from the king, when he was last in *London*) sent me a letter this week, wherein he presents his very humble service to you, desiring me withal to acquaint you with this following secret, *viz.* that he was told by several persons, above ordinary sagacity, that *Kuffler*'s fireworks were in our naval fight; and that a person of honour told him, that he saw my lord *Brounker* attending, and directing his majesty, at a view of some such execution, by way of discharging a strange wildfire out of a gun; which he guessed to have some affinity with the other. He adds, that he should suggest a security that *Kuffler* (a *Dutchman*) be not retained against us.

I BELIEVE this to be a great mistake and misinformation; and I think that both these things, mentioned by our friend, amount to one, and that very differing from *Kuffler*'s invention.

DR.

DR. *Beale*, in the ſame letter, tells me of a large diamond, as big as his hand-wriſt, ſent by a chemiſt to a lady, who ſhewed it to him very lately; which ſtone, he ſaith, the chemiſt made out of a black flint, commending it as very clear, and fair as any cryſtal, and fit for pendants, if not too hard for common workmen.

HE adds, that ſpirit of wine is by heat conſumed in one of his ſealed thermometers; and infers from thence, that though air be there commonly impriſoned, yet ſomething of weight and bulk does by heat get out: he will have even ethereal ſteams to have their weight alſo, otherwiſe we ſhould not retain them amongſt us, to fill up expanſions of air, or for our vital food. He had not, it ſeems, ſcales good enough to prove, that ſealed thermometers loſe weight by inſolation, but by the manifeſt waſte of the liquor he gueſſed it.

OUR Society did actually declare a diſcontinuance of their meetings on *Wedneſday* laſt; at which time they had the company of monſieur *de Lionne*'s ſon, and of the agent of the *French* merchants, monſieur *Damas*, who were alſo both, upon their deſire, admitted as fellows of the Society, after they had been ſpectators of ſome thoſe experiments, that were formerly made for the making out of that hypotheſis, concerning the air's being a diſſolvent to combuſtible bodies.

AFTER ſome lettuce, or other ſeeds of haſty growth, had been ſown in earth, and left expoſed to the open air, and at the ſame time ſome of them put in an exhauſted receiver, the former was ſprung up two or three inches high in a week; but the latter did not appear at all: whereupon air being admitted and continued to the latter, it did, within another week, ſhoot up as high as the other.

OUR news is, that a part of our fleet is returned to ſea under prince *Rupert*, the duke being at laſt prevailed with to ſtay at home; and that we cured the other day two *Dutchmen* of their infidelity, concerning the life of the duke and the prince, by their own eyes, and by kiſſing both their hands. By Mr. *Dury*'s letter out of *Helvetia*, I find that the fame is ſpread in remoter parts, that our fleet hath been worſted. The king hath further knighted *Tiddiman*, *Jordans*, and *Cuttings*. *Reynolds*, that was in *Guinea*, is at laſt come home by the *Barbadoes*, whence he hath conveyed into our ports eighteen or twenty ſugar-ſhips, and brought in his own veſſel, for ſome comfort of the *Guinea* company, ſome 20,000*l.* in gold, as Mr. *Slingſby* told me.

THE king's expected to-morrow at St. *James*'s, to ſit there in council. The court is not like to ſtay long at *Hampton*, the contagion being in that town alſo; but to remove to *Saliſbury*, and thence to *Oxford*, in *Auguſt*, to meet the parliament there, if that place remain uninfected.

I DO not incloſe here my fifth tranſactions, for fear of ſwelling the letter to above their worth; yet there are ſome particulars in it, communicated by Sir *R. Moray*, about the working of * * * and mines without air-ſhafts; and a way of breaking eaſily and ſpeedily the hardeſt rocks, which I think may be very uſeful. I hope my next will receive ſomething again out of your ſtore, which ſhall be acknowledged by

SIR,

your very humble
and faithful ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Aug.* 10, 1665.

THE *Italian* gentleman, now at *Oxford*, whom you hint to me in the favour of your laſt, I am, I think, not unknown to. I gueſs it is ſignior *Ubaldini*, a nobleman of *Tuſcany*, a late proteſtant proſelyte, of good natural and acquired parts, as far

far as I have been able to discern, by the small acquaintance I had with him when he was at *London*. He is indeed, as you say, very likely to give a good account of the *Roman* affairs, if his charge have not cut off that intercourse, whereby he might be enabled to do so; the considerablest transactions there being fallen out, I think, since he left that country. The last *Parisian* letters relate this of it: *Nous sommes tousjours mal avec le pape. On combat son infallibilité* (this will please Mr. *White* as much as any protestant) *autant bien & avec autant de vigueur qu'il est possible. Le parlia nent & la Sorbonne dans cette rencontre agissent de concert, & font leur devoir. Je vous diray ce que produira leur union. On inprimera un traitté de monsieur Talon* (the *French* king's sollicitor general) *sur ce sujet, que je vous envoyeray, quand je pourray.*

Je ne trouve personne (so he goes on upon another occasion) *qui aille en Angleterre, & je ne scay, comment vous envoyer ce que je vous ay promis. Monsieur Petit m'a demandé, si je ne pourrois pas vous faire tenir son livre de la comete, mais je luy ay dit, que je ne sçavois personne, qui passest la mer. De luy, & messieurs Auzout, Martel, Thevenot, & de tous ceux, qui ont l'honneur de vous connoitre* (thus he compliments) *j'ay ordre de vous exhorter à sortir de Londres, le danger estant par trop grand. Une personne de, &c. ne doit pas hazardée & exposée à un peril si grand. Vous y songerez, & vous conservez pour vous & pour vos amis.*

THIS kindness, expressed in the last period, did somewhat surprise me, not thinking the *French* had been guilty of that quality in so high a degree. I am likewise much obliged to you, Sir, for your favour of interesting yourself, as you were pleased to shew it in my last, in my health; which I shall endeavour, if the Lord shall think good to continue it, to employ with as much zeal for your service as for myself.

BUT, to return to the matters of that *French* letter; it gives me the following extract of a burning-glass, made, it seems, at *Lyons*, which I entreat, Sir, you would please to compare with your own that I have heard you commend, if I remember well, for burning pieces of silver; and having compared this description with the best effects of yours, to acquaint me with the difference, and in particular with those that concern the dimensions. If I find that the glasses we have of this kind in *England*, do not yet approach in goodness to that here described, I may, I think, in my next transactions insert it, if God give me life; and if you find it so too, I shall do well, I think, not to anticipate the printing thereof, by other multiplied communications. It is verbatim as follows.

Lugduni, Julii 18, 1665.

De efficacia speculi dom. Vilette, vera omnia perscripserat D. P. Bertet. Vidimus effectum repetitis vicibus, mane, meridie, à meridie: semper efficacissimè urit, & fundit, & liquat objecta quævis, paucissimis certè exceptis. Nobis præsentibus eliquavit argentum (une piece de 15 *sols) cuprum (un liard) orichalcum, frusta lebetis ferrei fusi, minuta frusta chalybis, capita minora clarorum ferrorum; nam ferrum à fabris cusum aliàs non, aut ægrè, liquat: sed calcinat vitrum, saxa ædificiorum (quæ in vitrum, fundendo, redegit, sicut & ossa animalium) etiam vitrum ab utraque parte politum eliquavit, quia pori ejus strictiores, quàm ut radios à speculo reflexos simul exciperent: candelam accendit promptissimè, baculos crassos ligneos momento inflammat jucundo spectaculo. Radius speculi est pedum* 4, *& pollicum* 8; *focus, pedum* 2, *& 4. pollicum; diameter circumferentiæ, pedum* 2, *pollicum* 6. *& linearum circiter* 2; *speculum etiam à parte convexa politum cernitur; sed rectiùs ab ea politura abstinuisset artifex ob foramina quædam & hiatus, exteriorem faciem nonnihil deformantes, quanquam & hoc nihil detrahat perfectioni speculi concavi. Speculum ipsum jam est cum suo pedamento absolutum: æstimatur* 150. *aureis Ludoviciis.*

SIR,

SIR, I rejoice very much to understand that you have two such excellent subjects ready again for the press; and I hope that this extraordinary calamitous season will not prove a real discouragement for the future. I assure you I have done my part, both as to the translation of the thermometrical piece, and to the pressing of Mr. *Crook* to have it dispatched. But the interrupting of the correspondence with *Holland* on one side, and this sad visitation on the other, hath disappointed all for the present. I have begun to translate the body itself of the History of Cold; and what you shall think good to commit hereafter, when it can be done with more safety than now, to my hands, concerning the hydrostatics, and the forms, either for the printing or translating, or both, I shall, God willing, study to serve you in, with the best of my power.

I HAVE now put all my little affairs and my papers in order, severing what belongs to the Royal Society, to yourself, and to Mr. *Dury*'s child and estate, *&c.* from mine own, and intending, if the hand of the Almighty should visit me, with others, at the very beginning of my indisposition, to have those books and papers (and particularly yours, and my translations concerning you) conveyed to a healthy place, and so to recommend them there, that in case of the like accident to them, they would take the like care for these things.

I AM very well pleased with the observation about the wood's being petrified in sandy earth; and I humbly thank you for the communication thereof. I doubt not but you will get a full proof concerning the matter of fact, and then give me leave to insert it in my transactions, if I live to print any more. I wonder whether those experiments you mention to have made with the poison drawn from tobacco, agree with those that were made at *Gresham*, and by Mr. *Daniel Coxe*.

I SEE I have no more paper left than is necessary for folding up this letter: wherefore it is time to say, what I am really,

SIR,

your faithful humble servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Aug.* 24, 1665.

AFTER such long letters of mine lately thronging in upon you, I thought it but fit to give you a little respite, and to promise you shorter ones hereafter. I cannot but return you my humble thanks for imparting to me somewhat of your philosophical employments where you are. I am very glad to understand some others of our *Greshamists* are active also, and like to give us a good account of their spent time, at our meeting again, which I beseech God to hasten, if it be his will. I should be very glad to hear your thoughts concerning the Gas sulphureum I mentioned formerly to you; as also a further information of the dimensions of your own burning-glass, if you have taken it out. Dr. *Wren* is well received at *Paris*, and conducted to some of their meetings, and made acquainted with messieurs *Auzout*, *Petit*, and *Thevenot*. My correspondent tells me this: *Je l'ay mené chez monsieur Bourdelot, où ce jour là on dit quantité de belles choses. Il approuva fort ce qu'on y dit, mais il souhaitoit, qu'on fit des experiences.* (This is like a member of the Royal Society.) *Le medecin de la reyne de Pologne y explique la nature d'une maladie, nommée plica, à laquelle les Polonois & les Cosaques seuls sont sujets. On y parla d'un sourd & muet, qui danse en cadence, & des plusieurs autres choses, qui luy plûrent assez. Nous l'avons aussi mené chez le grand architecte le chevalier Bernini. Il a vû le buste, qu'il fait du roy en marbre, & le dessein, qu'il*

qu'il a fait du Louvre, dont il vous entretiendra. Je luy ay fait voir ce matin la machine le monſieur Paſcal, avec laquelle on peut faire toutes ſortes de regles d'arithmetique.

I FIND, by the ſame letter, that the king of *France* hath now openly declared for *Holland*, and withal made monſieur *de la Fueillade* general of the *French* forces to be ſent againſt *Munſter*; which doubtleſs will embroil all *Germany* afreſh: yet the ſaid biſhop is like to go on in his deſign, which is double, to attack the *Dutch* upon his own account, and, if he proſper there, to ſend his army to reinforce *Flanders* againſt the *French*.

THE two fleets are like to engage again very ſhortly. We were conſiderably foiled at *Bergens*, yet not without a great loſs to the *Dutch*, having, as we ſay, ſunk three of their ſhips, and deſtroyed above one thouſand men.

OUR own eight *Eaſt India* ſhips, valued two hundred thouſand pounds ſterling, and our Eaſtland fleet, to the number of twenty, laden with ſubſtantial naval commodities, are all ſafe in our harbours. All were comfortable enough, if the Almighty were pleaſed to remove or mitigate this ſore calamity that lies upon us. Yet I cannot but obſerve, becauſe very obvious, that not many houſes of perſons that have healthy conſtitutions, and have not vitiated them by intemperance or otherwiſe, and do enjoy a comfortable ſubſiſtence (all theſe being taken together) are infected. But yet I think this very far from a demonſtration againſt the plague. Signior *Borrhi*, which I wonder at, remembers him to me in a letter written by a friend, and offers me (very kindly) his antidote for the plague, if I will aſſign a perſon to whom he ſhall give it. I could eaſily find a perſon, if I could but find a way to have it ſent over. However the kindneſs and favour is the ſame, and I have let him know ſo much, by a few lines I have inſerted for him in the anſwer to my friend. The ſame *Borrhi* had received news from *Vienna*, importing that now the Chriſtians need not fear the *Turks* any more, there being work enough cut out for them at *Meccha*. And it ſeems that that news is continued ſtill by letters to *Amſterdam*, the *Jews* of *Paleſtina* referring ſtill to their former letters, and alledging that all their ſynagogues under the *Turk*, fearing a maſſacre by reaſon of this matter, have ſtrictly forbidden the publiſhing of it as yet. But my faith grows fainter and fainter in this matter, finding the news is not confirmed with that vigour it began with. I remain,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Aug.* 29, 1665.

I MAKE the more haſte of acknowledging the favour of your laſt, becauſe I found myſelf urged by my thoughts, with ſpeed to offer ſome of my conſiderations upon the contents of a letter from Dr. *Beale*, which I received yeſterday, almoſt at the ſame time with yours. If he be not miſinformed by one of his majeſty's chaplains, who now waits at *Saliſbury*, and laſt week gave him a viſit, you, Sir, are nominated provoſt of *Eton*; which, if ſo, our ſaid friend hopes, and ſo do I, you will not refuſe it, conſidering that that place hath many opportunities of influence on the univerſities, and is able to oblige many: which ſtrengthens our hope that you will accept of it, eſpecially ſince it is, as I underſtand, no burthen, and much accommodation; it being alſo but half a day's journey from thence to *London*, and not much more to *Oxford*. All God's bleſſings be upon you, and his power determine your deliberations for the beſt to yourſelf, and his honour. If you ſhould be ſo directed as to embrace it, and there ſhould occur any laborious diſpatches, that might be devolved

devolved upon others, I know thoſe that honour and love you would be ready to eaſe you; and, among them, none more ready to do you ſervice than myſelf, as far as I am capable. I humbly thank you for your opinion of the Helmontian Gas, which is no ſmall encouragement to me to continue the uſe of it, as it is prepared by *D. Poleman.* I hope that you will alſo oblige me with communicating to me the dimenſions and effects of your burning glaſſes; the meltings of caſt iron, glaſs, and ſtone, in that of *Lyons*, look like impoſſibilities, ſo that I ſhall endeavour to get the thing well atteſted before it be publiſhed in print. I heard as yet nothing of a new comet, ſeen by any in this town; only Dr. *Beale* intimated, a fortnight ſince, in general, that they talked afreſh of prodigies in the air, and ſome of another comet: but nothing in particular then, nor ſince. I ſhould be glad to underſtand at what hour, and in what quarter of the heavens it was ſeen by thoſe of your acquaintance in *Eſſex*. There were ſome of our *Greſhamiſts* that thought one or the other of the two former comets might be ſeen again, after ſome time; whence it is a queſtion, whether this that is pretended to be lately ſeen, be a new one, or one of the former grown viſible again.

I CONCEIVE, it would be obliging to the public to print that catalogue you mention, of the anti-peſtilential medicines: and, I think, it would be moſt conveniently done at *Oxford*, our ſtationers and printers having, for the moſt part, taken the country, as well as others.

I ACKNOWLEDGE, that that jealouſy, about the firſt authors of experiments, which you ſpeak of, is not groundleſs; and therefore offer myſelf to regiſter all thoſe you, or any perſon, ſhall pleaſe to communicate as new, with that fidelity, which both the honour of my relation to the Royal Society (which is highly concerned in ſuch experiments) and my own inclinations, do ſtrongly oblige me to.

FROM ſea we hear of no late action; our fleet being yet at *Solebay*, repairing the damage received at *Bergen*, and by ſtorm. From *Paris* I had this, by the yeſterday's poſt: *La public a bien de l'obligation à monſieur Boyle de travailler ſi genereuſement & ſi ſçavemment, comme il fait: il faut avouer, que l'Angleterre a grand nombre de gens ſçavans & de curieux, & en plus grand nombre, que le reſte de l'Europe: tout ce qui vient d'eux, eſt ſolide & particulier; le monde ayant eſté aſſez long temps amuſé des notions generales. Voſtre cour* (ſo he paſſes on) *a refuſé les propoſitions, que la roy luy a fait faire d'un accommodement; ce qui l'oblige à executer le traité fait avec meſſieurs les Eſtats. De plus, on ſçait ce que le Roy d'Angleterre fait avec l'Eſpagne: peut eſtre, qu' avec le temps il n'y trouvera pas ſon compte. L'eveſque de Munſter continue ſes levées, mais on croit, & il y a bien de l'apparence, qu'elles ſe font en faveur de la maiſon d'Auſtreche. On a bien des reſſources icy, le roy ayant de l'argent & des hommes, & quand il ſera joint aux Hollandois, il aura des vaiſſeux, & vous incommodera peut eſtre autant, que vous le pourriez faire, quoy que les Anglois nous mepriſent, & croyent, qu'on ne peut pas leur reſiſter. Quand ils auront le ciel & la terre pour ennemis, il changeront de language, & ſeront, peut eſtre, eſtonnez, non obſtant leur fierté.*

La mort du duc de Mantouë eſt certaine. Monſieur l'Abbé de Beaufort eſt à la Baſtille, pour les affaires d'Angleterre. La reyne mere ſe porte mieux. Le roy a eſté ſeigné au pied, à cauſe de quelque petite indiſpoſition. Depuis un jour ou deux on eſpere beaucoup de la ſante de la reyne mere: mais avec tout cela, ceux que conoiſſent ſon mal, ne croyent pas, qu'elle en puiſſe rechaper, la maſſe du ſang eſtant corrompue. Cependant un medecin du Bar, nommé Alliot, reuſſit aſſez bien, & fait tout ce qui ſe peut pour conſerver la reyne. Monſieur Colbert a en le cordon bleu par la mort de monſieur de Nouveau, qui eſtoit treſorier de l'ordre. Quoy qu'on face à Rome, il faudra, que la pape ſouffre, qu'on condamne icy ſon infallibilité, qui eſt contre la raiſon, & contre les loix de l'eſtat. Le roy d'Eſpagne diminue tous les jours: neantmoins ſa flotte d'argent eſt arrivée à Cadix, d'où on eſcrit, qu'il y a un galion de perdu,

que les Corſaires ont pris. De peur, que les Anglois ne reviennent à Berguen, les matelots Hollandois ont fait des batteries au pied des chaſteaux pour pouvoir tirer à fleur d'eau: & l'on y a tendu une groſſe chaiſne, & mis des maſts liez enſemble à l'entree du port, en attendant qu'on les vienne tirer de là. En cas qu'ils ne puiſſent pas ſe deffendre, ils mettront le feu aux merchandiſes, pluſtoſt que de laiſſer entre les mains des Anglois un butin auſſi riche, qu'eſt celuy là.

BUT for fear of committing again what I condemned in my laſt, I ſhall end with repeating the aſſurance of my being,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 18, 1665.

SEEING you give me no authority to endeavour to deter the *Dutchmen* from printing their book of Colours, I think I ought not to appear in that buſineſs: monſieur *Herringman* may thank himſelf, and impute the loſs it may cauſe to him to his own delays. If the importunity of company do drive you away from *Oxford*, I hope we ſhall hear betimes of the place you intend to remove to, where you are not like to be free from the perſecutions of my letters, if the Lord ſpare me farther, as he hath been pleaſed to do hitherto. Though we had ſome abatement in our laſt week's bill, yet we are much afraid it will run as high this week as ever. M. *Graunt*, in his Appendix to his Obſervations upon thoſe bills, (now reprinted) takes notice, that forasmuch as the people of *London* have, from *anno* 1625 to this time, encreaſed from eight to thirteen; ſo the mortality will not exceed that of 1625, except the burials ſhould exceed 8400 *per* week, which number we have been pretty near to. Signior *Borrhi* hath expreſſed a real favour and kindneſs to me, which, when he firſt mentioned it, I looked upon it as a mere compliment: for he hath ſent me his own Antiloimoides, ſo conveniently prepared, that he encloſed it (the medicine itſelf) in a fine bladder, which he ſo ſquared, that it was handſomely put up in a letter, and ſo came ſafely to my hands; but had that ſtrength of ſcent, that the man who brought the letter ſaid it muſt be ſome rare medicine, come from beyond ſea, againſt the plague. It is made up in the conſiſtency of mithridate or treacle, and hath a very comfortable ſmell; yet I have not hitherto made uſe of it, but only taſted as much of it as the bigneſs of a pin's head, but know not what to make of it. Methinks I find myrrh and aloe, and mithridate or treacle in it; and I had ſent you a pattern of it in this very letter, but that I thought you might be too much ſurpriſed by the ſcent thereof. Wherefore I conceived I did beſt to make this a forerunner, and, if you forbid me not, to let the thing itſelf follow by the next, God permitting; which I am the more deſirous to do, becauſe I have an opinion you will be pleaſed with ſeeing and examining that medicine, which comes from ſuch a man, in ſuch a way, for ſuch an end, and with ſuch a character annexed to it by the author, that if it were for a king, we know not to give any better, both for preventing and expelling the plague.

HAVING now received monſieur *Hevelius*'s preſent, which Dr. *Wallis* hath a ſhare in, I am now enquiring for a convenient and ſafe conveyance to him, which I ſhall have no ſooner found, but I ſhall, God willing, make uſe of it. It is, methinks, very pleaſant to read, and built upon an hypotheſis, which is ingenious, full of ſpeculation, and appearing ſufficient to ſolve all the phænomena of comets. This may *movere ſalivam*.

CALLING

CALLING the other day at the *Biſhop's Head* in *Paul's Church-yard*, where Mr. *Thompſon* abideth by it, I heard of him that *Kircher*'s *Mundus Subterraneus* is come over, and that he looks for the delivery within four or five days: I perceive the price will amount to fifty ſhillings at leaſt, and yet but one volume. I find alſo, by his catalogue, that the ſame *Kircher* has publiſhed a *Scrutinium Phyſico-medicum peſtis*, which I never ſaw before. There is alſo come over *Steno de Muſculis & Glandulis*, which I know not whether it hath been ſeen here formerly. I find nothing elſe worth buying, except it be *Johannis Hooker Dantiſcani (Hevelius*'s kinſman) *Motuum Cæleſtium Ephemerides, ab anno* 1666, *ad* 1689; grounded upon the *Tychonian* obſervations, and *Keplerian* hypotheſes, and the *Rudolphin* tables, compoſed *ad Meridianum Uraneburgicum*.

I BELIEVE our taking of ſome more *Dutch* ſhips, ſo that there are in all ten men of war, and twenty merchantmen, is come to *Oxford* ere this; as alſo that our fleet is returned to *Solebay*, having been ſomewhat diſperſed by the late high winds; yet, God be praiſed, without conſiderable damage to us. I humbly thank you for the favour you intend me, of ſending Mr. *Auſtin*'s new and reformed edition; and when you can conveniently ſend me your queries for the burning glaſs, they ſhall, I hope, be well recommended, by,

SIR,

your very humble,
and faithful ſervant,
H. OLDENBURG.

P. S. I FIND, Sir, by your ſilence, that you are not ſatisfied with the teſtimonials hitherto given of the *Iriſh* healer. Dr. *Beale* and Dr. *Sydenham* jump in a full aſſurance of the truth of the thing, and the latter of them ſaith, that for all he brought as much prejudice againſt it as any man could, yet now he hath no more reaſon to doubt it, than to doubt whether he is a man, or ſome other animal. He adds, that if I ſhall deſire particular accounts, he will take them for me, but that they are ſo many, that it may as reaſonably be demanded of me, who am at *London*, who in particular have died of the plague, and how they are taken, to the end it may be diſcovered certainly whether there be ſuch a diſeaſe or no.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 28, 1665.

I VENTURE to ſend you here encloſed a ſmall proportion of ſignior *Borrhi*'s antidote, which hitherto I have made no other uſe of, but barely to taſte it, much ſcrupling in this tickliſh time to ſtir the ſtate of my health, eſpecially by the uſe of a medicine I have no elogium of, but that of the author alone. Yet I do very much wiſh, in caſe you taſte it, or otherwiſe examine it, that you would favour me with a free communication of your judgment concerning it, as alſo of your advice about the beneficialneſs or conveniency of uſing it as a preſervative, for which the donor recommends it as much as for an expulſive. And this advice I do now take the greater liberty to entreat of you, ſince I am very credibly informed, that you have indulged to the academicans to degrade yourſelf to be doctor, and therefore am the more confident you will both as ſuch, and as a noble friend, aſſiſt me with your counſel herein. I return you my humble thanks for communicating to me the ground of your hydroſtatical inſtrument, which I am much pleaſed with. Turning over a part of *Kircher*'s *Mundus Subterraneus* the other day at Mr. *Thompſon*'s (who will certainly keep an exemplar of it for you) I found him treat alſo ſomething of hydroſtatics, as

alſo of metallo-ſtatics; but in what manner a bare running over of ſome leaves could not enable me to give you an account of. In the mean while, I do much fear he gives us rather collections, as his cuſtom is, of what is already extant and known, than any conſiderable new diſcoveries. The titles and heads of chapters are very auguſt: if the matter equal them, I ſhall not repent of what I muſt pay for it. I have already offered Mr. *Thompſon* the value of forty ſhillings in books I intend to part with (which himſelf muſt acknowledge to be more worth) and yet he demurs to make the exchange, though *Kircher*'s book make but one middle-ſized volume, the cuts of it being alſo not very many, and moſt of them in wood. It is certain this book takes in all the conſiderable particulars belonging to the world, waters, metals, ſtones, (where he forgets not that of the philoſophers) fires, earths, inſects, under-ground men and dæmons themſelves, *&c.* but how he acquits himſelf of it, you muſt judge. I have ſent this very day by water to *Oxford*, *Hevelius*'s *Prodromo Cometicus*, deſigned by the author for Dr. *Wallis*, accompanied with another for the biſhop of *Exeter*, and my letters for them both; and I hope the roll will come ſafe, and the biſhop will meet his preſent, coming to ſit in parliament. When you are ready to ſend your queries about the great *French* concave, I ſhall be ſo alſo, to recommend them, I hope, to good purpoſe. A late letter from *Paris* to me hath this further, for its recommendation. *La miroir de Monſieur Septalius* (which I gave lately a deſcription of to Sir *R. Moray*) *n'eſt pas à comparer à celuy de Lyon, que n'a pas ſon pareil au monde. Monſieur Auzout vous en entretiendra d'avantage au premier jour* (but this entertainment I have not had yet) *& vous en ſera bien d'autres effects, ou au moins plus conſiderables, que ceux, que je vous ay mandé: bien de gens le marchandent; & il y a bien de l'apparence, qu'il ſortira de France, nos François n'eſtans pas aſſez curieux.* I cannot imagine after what manner the preſervation of bodies uncorrupted for many years, without embalming or other artifice, can be performed, except it be by intenſe natural cold, or by exſiccating ſands. I hope I ſhall have a ſhare in what the traveller you mention may impart to you concerning it; and I am very glad to find you remember a ſecond edition of the Uſefulneſs of experimental Philoſophy, which you can hardly think how much it is deſired by all ſorts of men. I have gone a good way in continuing the *Latin* traduction of it: the like I have done of your experimental Hiſtory of Cold; in regard of which latter it will be, methinks, not only unneceſſary, but alſo prejudicial to the printer of the *Latin* for Cold, to have the ſame tranſlated into *Italian*, for this latter would certainly hinder the ſale of the *Latin* copies in *Italy*, where they love every whit as well to read books in *Italian*, as the *Engliſh* do to read them in *Engliſh*. Wherefore I propoſe only, whether it might not do well to give ſome indirect hint to that *Italian* gentleman, that has ſuch an intention as you ſpeak, that the *Latin* verſion is like to be finiſhed within a month or ſo, and that the copies thereof being ſent abroad into all the learned parts of the world, and conſequently into *Italy* too, will preoccupate the ſale of the *Italian* tranſlation, *&c.* What I mention of finiſhing it within a month or thereabouts, I hope, by the help of God, ſhall be performed.

Now for ſome ſtate news, and I have done. I received lately a letter from *Amſterdam*, which does not only acknowledge their late great loſs, but laments withal, that they ſee that all the power they can make, and all the policy they can uſe, avails them nothing, divine providences appearing ſo adverſe to them. It ſeems by all the circumſtances of this letter, that they had contrived the greateſt power, and the beſt conduct they are maſters of, to come off well this ſecond time, and to fight their merchantmen home with good ſucceſs; but being extremely defeated in their expectation, the ſobereſt of them fall to conſider what will be the event of it, eſpe-

cially

cially now the biſhop of *Munſter* is alſo actually upon their ſkirts, and finds as yet no conſiderable reſiſtance. I am perſuaded, that if they would yet come down from their haughtineſs, they would find much generoſity and equity in the *Engliſh*, of granting them ſuch terms, whereby they might handſomely continue their trade for a comfortable ſupport of their country; and they hardly deſerve more, in my opinion. I am apt to believe that *France* will prove a broken reed to them; and that at laſt, ſeeing the ſea power of *England*, they will ſtrike in with them for a ſhare in trade; eſpecially now they ſeem to be ſet upon it more than ever, to advance the ſame in their country: for which purpoſe orders are already iſſued, as I find by letters, not only to promote the manufactures of cloth and ſilk, but alſo to ſet up ſeveral others, of which they ſpecify glaſs-making, inſomuch that no *Venice* glaſs is any more to be imported into *France*; as alſo lace-making, of which latter commodities none is to be ſold henceforth in that kingdom, but what ſhall be made by their own people, and ſo of other manufactures, that ſo they may keep their monies at home, and make conqueſts with it abroad. The *French* king hath ſent an embaſſador *à la Porte Ottomanne*, which is the ſame that was lately ſo ill treated there. To conclude; *La Reyne mere ſe porte beaucoup mieux de ſon cancer, le medicin Aliot luy mettant des poudres, qui font ſortir la chair pourrie. Il croit fort de la pouvoir guerir, ce qu'il a deſſein de faire en reduiſant la mammelle à rien par ſes poudres. Le roy ayant reconnu la foibleſſe de la medecine, & l'ignorance de ceux, qui la pratiquent, il les à tourné en ridicule dans une comedie, qu'il à fait jouër à Verſailles en ſa preſence.*

I DOUBT not but you will rejoice at the decreaſe of the plague, ſo conſiderable this week, that the burials are leſs by 1837 than they were the week before. The Lord give us truly thankful hearts, and be pleaſed to enlarge his mercies more and more, and to ſtop the current of abuſing them. So prays,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

JUST as I was going to ſend away theſe letters, came ſome both of *France* and *Holland* to my hands, which are all conſiderable; but I have not time to add them now: only this I ſhall touch, that the *French* letters aſſure the death of the king of *Spain*, and the *Dutch* the *Meccha* news. M. *Serrarius* tells me, that the tranſcribing of Mr. *Borrel*'s manuſcript goes on apace, and deſires that ſome money may be aſſigned, at firſt ſome thirty or forty guilders, which is about three pound ſterling: you may ſee his own letter, if you pleaſe.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 5, 1665.

CONSIDERING with myſelf yeſternight what my employment would be this day, I did not think I could poſſibly redeem ſo much time as to ſcribble a few lines, to perform therein what I promiſed by my laſt. And I had already intimated ſo much to Sir *R. Moray* in a letter, which I wrote for him yeſternight late, after I had taken leave of a pipe of tobacco, ſuppoſing he would be gone from *Oxford* before my next ſhould come there. Yours of *Septemb.* 30, the ſame date with the laſt of Sir *R. Moray*'s, came not to me till this morning, whereas I received the other on *Tueſday*; the cauſe of this difference I cannot imagine, and not being at home when it was brought, I could neither enquire into it. I have mentioned ſome more particulars of ſieur *Borrhi*'s medicine in Sir *R. Moray*'s letter, which I know he will ſhew you;

you; wherein you will alſo find, that it works chiefly by ſweat, and at laſt *par ſelle*, which circumſtance will perhaps make you gueſs the better at the chief ingredient thereof.

THE mentioned letter to Sir *Robert* contains all the ſtate news I have received ſince my laſt to you; and I am perſuaded they will not diſpleaſe you. For philoſophical news, I ſhall in thoſe few minutes I have remaining, haſten to to give you that account which I received laſt week from *Paris* concerning the *miroir ardent*, and which I thought I ſhould have been obliged to put off till another week. It came to me in *French*, in theſe very words: *La figure du miroir eſt ronde, du diametre de 30 pouces & quelque choſes de plus. Il eſt bordé d'un coſte d'un cercle d'acier, à fin qu'il demeure dans ſa juſte meſure. Il eſt aiſé de le remuer, quoy qu'il peſe plus d'un quintal, & l'on le met aiſement en toutes ſortes de ſituations. Le point brulant eſt diſtant du centre du miroir d'environ 3 pieds, le focus eſt large, comme d'un demy Louys d'or. On y peut paſſer la main, pourvû que ce ſoit avec precipitation, car ſi elle y demeure le temps d'une ſeconde, on ſeroit en danger de ſe faire beaucoup de mal. Le bois vert prend feu en un inſtant, comme pluſieurs autres corps. Un petit morceau de fer de marmite s'eſt mis en goute preſt à tomber à terre, en 40 ſecondes. La piece de 15 ſols a eſté percée en 24 ſecond. Le clou de payſan s'eſt mis en goute en 30 ſecond. Un bout de lame d'eſpee d'Olinde s'eſt bruſlé en 24 ſec. un jetton de letton à eſtè percé en 43 ſec. un petit morceau de fer bleu à eſté percé en 6 ſec. Un morceau de cuivre rouge s'eſt mis en gout preſt à tomber en 42 ſec. Un morceau de quarreau de chambre s'eſt vitrifié & mis en bouteille en 45 ſec. L'acier, dont les horologers font leur reſſorts, s'eſt trouvé fondu en 9 ſec. La pierre de mine, que l'on met aux arquebuſes à rouët, s'eſt calciné & vitrifié en une minute juſte, & un morceaux de mortier s'eſt vitrifié en 52 ſec. Enfin il n'y à point de corps, qui par ce feu là ne ſe conſomme. Si l'on vouloit faire fondre quelque groſſe quantité de metal, il faudroit beaucoup plus de temps, outre que l'action ne ſe fait que dans la grandeur du focus, de ſorte qu'on n'y expoſe ordinairement, que de petits morceaux. Un, nommé Mr. D'Alibert, l'achepte, & en donne 1500 livres.*

SIR, I preſume this relation will be no diſcouragement to the queries and experiments you have deſigned for this glaſs, which I long to receive, and to ſend to my correſpondent.

I CANNOT now add any more, than to intimate in a word, that the *Meccha* news grows ſtronger; and to return you my humble thanks for giving me, though abſent, a ſhare in your philoſophical collection, which is ſome ſolace for my unhappineſs of not enjoying more. Methinks you are ſo many fellows of the Society, that you can make more than a quorum, but that you want the preſident. I rejoice to find by yours, that you intend to make ſo good uſe of that opportunity as you did; and I hope, ſince you are ſo many, and ſo conſiderable ones of our body, you will make it a part of your buſineſs ſo to inſinuate the deſigns of the Royal Society into the *Oxonians*, that they may reliſh them as much as moſt of them have been reported to diſguſt them, and give them cauſe to prefer that ſolidity of knowledge, the ſaid Society aims at, before ſcholaſtical intentions. So ends abruptly,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

I ACKNOWLEDGE myſelf unworthy of the favour expreſſed to me in your collection by thoſe worthy perſons you were pleaſed to name. I humbly entreat you to aſſure them of the deep ſenſe I have of it, and of my very humble ſervice, particularly to Sir *William Petty*, Dr. *Wallis*, and Dr. *Coxe*.

I KNOW

I KNOW not, Sir, whether I mentioned to you in my laſt M. *Serrarius*'s deſire, about the diſburſing of ſome money for the tranſcribing of Mr. *Borrel*'s papers. I am ſure I intended it; but often, I think, the concurrence of many particulars makes me forget ſome of them.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 10, 1665.

I AM glad you like the *French* burning glaſs, which you will do the more, being aſſured by the letters ſent me, that the performances mentioned are ſo real, that no man there doubts of the truth thereof. Since I ſent you the tranſcript, I have loſt the original; at leaſt I have ſo miſlaid it, that I muſt uſe the freedom of deſiring a copy of what you have.

THE enquiry about ſounds is worthy of philoſophers; and I find that *Kircher*, even under ground, could not forbear to meddle with it: for in his *Mundus Subterraneus*, treating of the center of the earth, and of pendulums, he takes occaſion to treat *de chordarum harmonicarum motu*, affirming that the motion of ſtrings in muſical inſtruments is after the ſame manner as the motion of pendulums, and deriving thence all muſic. *Cum enim* (ſaith he) *ſonus quilibet componatur ex tot acuminis & gravitatis gradibus, quot diadromorum reflexorum puncta ſunt, quibus toties auris tympanum, dato aliquo tempore, à commoto aëre percutitur; luculenter patet, tam ſonos, quàm conſonantias diſſonantiáſve omnes, nil aliud eſſe, præter varios motuum aëris, ad aures appellentium, numeros, nervorum ſpirituumque acuſticorum ope ad cerebrum delatos.* And a little after he propoſes this experiment; *tendantur duæ chordæ æqualis craſſitiei & longitudinis eodem pondere, ut utræque ad invicem uniſonum ſonent: tum ſicuti ſe habet chorda ad chordam, & pondus ad pondus intenſivum, ita ſe habebunt vibrationes ad ſe invicem: quoniam itaque chordæ ſunt æquales, eæ æquali tempore æquales vibrationes perficient.* Thence he goes on, by the diviſion of ſtrings and a due application of weights, to give diapaſons, diſdiapaſons, *&c.* as you will better find in the book itſelf.

I WAS but yeſterday with Mr. *Thompſon*, who uſes to acquaint me with the new books that come abroad; but he neither then, nor afore, told me any thing of *Galilæo*'s ſecond tome; but I ſhall aſk him about it, God willing, the next time I paſs that way.

I AM very glad that I have not been ſo forward, as ſome of my correſpondents would have had me, in diffuſing the wonders, ſaid to be performed by *Graterix*, into all parts of the world; and that with my own aſſeverations of the truth thereof: for I find your intelligence much differing from mine; though indeed I heard lately, that this healer did fail in ſome cures, but that it was about ſuch perſons as had their ſinews quite withered, and their vitals totally deſtroyed, and the balls of their eyes loſt; and that therefore himſelf did ſadly complain over, and much commiſerate the ill adviſed journies of ſuch perſons, ſaying, that God had given him the gift of healing, but not creating limbs. By the very laſt I received this information, that a child in Dr. *Beale*'s neighbourhood is cured of the ſtone, or other ſtoppage of urine, which came all, as he ſaith, with horrid pain, in threads, or ropy; but now, after the touch, is very perfectly natural and without pain. Having related this, he adds, It cannot be denied that innumerable great cures are done, and it is not poſſible that all expectations ſhould be ſatisfied, without a general reſtoration, equivalent to a reſurrection. And then he concludes, that the ſame muſt ſuddenly fall, becauſe it is odious to many, and winter hinders the paſſage, and himſelf is tired with the infinite reſort, and men's expectations.

I HAVE heard the like you are pleaſed to mention, concerning the effect of ſpirit of hart's-horn, of M. *Whitaker*, who is, perhaps, the young practitioner about *London*

you hint in your letter. But I do not understand upon what account the sulphur aur. diaphoreticum, being a vomit, as you intimate, should be a safe medicine for the plague.

I HAVE here inserted M. *Serrarius*'s own note of what is desired at present for the copying of M. *Borrel*'s papers; you may do as you think fit: I have in the mean while written to him that I have acquainted you with it, and that I doubt not but you will give all reasonable satisfaction for the pains taken in this matter. I have likewise enclosed M. *Auzout*'s printed paper, containing his censure of the *Hevelian* observations of the first comet, to the end that our *Oxonian* members comparing them together, may be the both abler to judge of the controversy; concerning which our president writes thus to me, in a letter (written on board of the *Dutch Slothany* prize) which came to my hands yesterday: "I shall peruse *Hevelius*'s book you sent me, "and give you some account of it; but it will be convenient I first see what M. *Au-* "*zout* objects, and not amiss too to know the sense of our members at *Oxford*, the "same being likely also to be my opinion, and then my assent only will save me fur- "ther trouble; and if we differ, it were fit to reconcile them first before a return be "made to *Hevelius*. I agree with you, that it were not fit to return for answer, that "the discontinuance of our usual meetings, during the plague at *London*, incapaci- "tates the Society to give their opinion of it, without sending at the same time the "judgment of those you mention." Sir, these persons were yourself, Sir *R. Moray*, Sir *William Petty*, Dr. *Wallis*. And you see by this how necessary it is, that this printed paper should be with speed perused and considered by the *Oxonian* club, that so it may quickly be returned hither for his lordship. On *Saturday* last I gave notice to Sir *R. Moray* by the post, that I had then sent away two of *Hevelius*'s books for *Oxford* by a barge, whose owner is one Mr. *Moise*, carrying several things belonging to the duke of *York* and prince *Rupert*, the duke's confectioner going along with it. I hear the barge stays five miles short of *Oxford*, and that there other conveyance is provided to carry it to *Oxford*; as also that my roll is put up with the duke's goods. I doubt not but Sir *Robert* will enquire, and take care that it may be delivered to Dr. *Wallis*, who is most concerned therein. In the same letter to Sir *Robert*, I took notice to him of what a certain odd philosopher (whom you know better than he, it being signior *Spinoza*) hath very lately written to me concerning M. *Huygens*'s transmigration into *France*, his pendulums, and his progress in dioptrics, *&c.* The same *Spinoza* expresses a very great respect for you, and presents you his most humble service, and is displeased that the *Dutch* stationers will, in spight of our teeth, sell off one of their own *Latin* impressions of their History of Colours, before the translation made here can be sent thither.

TO give you an extract of what he is thinking and doing, he writes thus: *Gaudeo, philosophos vestrates vivere, sui suæque reipublicæ memores. Quid nuper fecerint, expectabo, quando bellatores sanguine fuerint saturi, &, ad vires nonnihil instaurandas, quieverint. Si celebris ille irrisor hæc ætate viveret, risu sanè periret. Me tamen hæ turbæ nec ad risum, nec etiam ad lacrymandum, sed potius ad philosophandum, & humanam naturam melius observandam, incitant. Nam nec naturam irridere, mihi fas existimo, multò minùs ipsam deplorare, dum cogito, homines, ut reliqua, partem tantùm esse naturæ, neque ignorare, quomodo unaquæque pars naturæ cum suo toto conveniat, & quomodo cum reliquis cohæreat; & ex solo hujus cognitionis defectu reperio, quòd quædam naturæ, quæ ita ex parte & non nisi mutilatè percipio, & quæ cum nostra mente philosophica minimè conveniunt, mihi antehac vana, inordinata, absurda, videbantur: jam verò unumquemque ex suo ingenio vivere fino, & qui volunt, profectò suo bono moriantur, dummodò mihi pro vero vivere liceat. Compono jam tractatum de meo circa scripturam sensu; ad id verò faciendum me movent.* 1. *Præjudicia theologorum;*

sciò

ſciò enim, ea maximè impedire, quò minus homines animum ad philoſophiam applicare poſſint: ea igitur patefacere atque amoliri à mentibus prudentiorum ſatago. 2. *Opinio, quam vulgus de me habet, qui me atheiſmi infimulare non ceſſat: eam quoque averruncare, quoad fieri poteſt, cogor.* 3. *Libertas philoſophandi dicendique quæ ſentimus; quam aſſerere omnibus modis cupio, quæque hîc ob nimiam concionatorum authoritatem & petulantiam utcunque ſupprimitur. Nondum audio, Carteſianum aliquem ex Carteſ. hypotheſi, nuperorum cometarum phænomena explicare; & dubito, an ex illa ritè explicari poſſint.*

MONSIEUR *du Son* being the other day at my houſe, where we talked at random of many things, told me, among the reſt, that he had known the blind man at *Maeſtricht*, that ſees colours with his fingers ends, and had converſed with him a good while; during which he had ſeen him play at cards, with better ſucceſs than any man he played with; as alſo to diſtinguiſh men and women from one another, by feeling their hands or necks, and to diſcriminate the ſeveral colours of hair; and laſtly, to diſcern the beauty of women by their voice.

OF ſtate news we have the following particulars; that the whole *Dutch* fleet is come to *Solebay* for a bravado, our fleet being not there; that the *French* auxiliaries are upon their march, to join with the *Holland* forces againſt *Munſter*; that the *French* king hath given order to buy up 40,000 new muſkets; that the king of *Spain* hath been dead theſe ſix months, and that when they told us ſome weeks ſince of his being ſpectator of a bull-baiting, it was his effigy that looked on, ſo artificially made, that it moved *quaquaverſum*.

I PRAY, Sir, oblige me, by quickening our friends to peruſe this printed paper, that I may have it again ſpeedily; for I am unwilling to have M. *Hevelius*'s patience tried too long. I reſerve my writing to Sir *R. Moray* till *Thurſday*, to whom I pray my humble ſervice. I heard not from him when I did from you laſt.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 17, 1665.

SELF-INTEREST makes me ſorry, you were laſt time hindered of the favour you intended me, of taking notice of more particulars of mine than you did. I wiſh you more leiſure the next time for accompliſhing your intentions, that cannot be but very advantageous to me; and in the interim return you my humble thanks for thoſe informations you were pleaſed to impart to me, concerning the experiments of the tobacco poiſon, and that other, which, becauſe the chief word of the paragraph, relating of what kind that experiment was, had ſome odd ſtrokes paſſing through the letters thereof, I can only gueſs by the context to have been ſome mercurial one. You may be ſure, Sir, wherever I mention any thing coming from you I ſhall do you right; and as I have mentioned in my next Tranſactions, ſome particulars you have been liberal to impart, ſo I intend, God willing, to do in the following, without omitting in either the fountain whence I received it. I ſuppoſe you did not think, when you gave an anſwer to my laſt, that I would ſo ſoon need that copy I begged of you, concerning the burning glaſs of *Lyons*; but I have all ready for the next papers, to be printed, if God permit, the firſt *Monday* of *November*, and ſhould have ſent them by this very poſt, that they might come time enough to be reviewed by my *Oxonian* friends at their leiſure, before their entering the preſs; but that I want that *French* copy to put it into *Engliſh*, having left a blank for it in thoſe papers. I beſeech you therefore again to favour me with giving your ſervant order to tranſcribe it for me, and to ſend it hither by the next poſt, by which I may receive it on *Friday* next, and ſo tranſmit my papers the very next day, as I wrote to Sir *R. Moray* I would do.

I WONDER ſomewhat I hear nothing of the arrival of my roll, containing the Prodromus, it going away from hence *October* 7. But I believe that ſome copies thereof were ſent by Mr. *Thompſon* to *Oxford* before mine went; ſo that thoſe who will take the pains of peruſing it, and compare both, may find the book at ſome ſtationers in the town where you are.

AT this preſent I have no news, neither philoſophical nor other; no letters being come to me, ſince my laſt, but *Dutch*, which ſpeak of their triumphs over ſome colliers and fiſhermen, as alſo of more ſtories from *Mecca* confirming the former. Some mention is alſo made therein of the biſhop of *Munſter*'s diſturbances and miſchiefs he gives to the *Dutch* people in ſeveral parts. What is added of the rumour, as if the *French* king were killed by a ſhot, is here looked upon as fabulous, our laſt letters mentioning not a word of ſuch an accident; whereas I am ſure my correſpondent, from whom I then received two letters, would have given notice of it to,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

WE hope for a decreaſe of 1500 this week; which God grant.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 31, 1665.

THE unexpected favour of your letter this week, obliges me to a ſpeedy acknowledgment, which I return to you the more cordially, becauſe of the frankneſs therein expreſſed of reſcinding ſome things of the Tranſactions, concerning which, the more freedom you and my other friends do uſe, the more obliging and ſatisfactory it will be to me. The ſtereometrical balance being mentioned immediately after your taking notice of the hydroſtatical papers being ready to go the preſs, induced me to believe that it was to be inſerted there. I heard nothing from Dr. *Wallis*, whom you ſeemed to mention as inclined to write me ſome account of the ſaid Tranſactions: and it is almoſt a fortnight ſince I received any thing from Sir *R. Moray*, ſince which time I have ſent him ſeveral packets, both from others and myſelf. I hope he is well, and then I am ſure he will not forget me, though he be not in *Oxford*. I ſhall be very glad to ſee the book of injections, and ſhall then be better able to ſay what is fit, on the behalf of thoſe members of the Society, that had invented and practiſed the ſame way before any others known to us. And it would not be amiſs, if I might receive the information of ſome particulars concerning that matter, of which I think I ſhall meet with nothing in your Uſefulneſs, *&c.*

IN my laſt I received from *Paris* what follows: *icy une perſonne, qui a travaillé à l'hiſtoire de l'Academie, , qui eſtoit compoſée de pluſieurs habiles gens: A Porta en eſtoit, & un Terrentius, & Molitor, qui à fait quantité d'obſervations touchant les animaux, dont on à quelques fragmens. S'il avoit trouvé en libraire, qui luy voulut faire une honeſte reconnoiſſance, il luy donneroit ſa copie, qui eſt preſque achevée. Il y parle de l'eſtabliſſement de cette academie, de ſes ſtatuts, des deſſeins du prince Ceſi, qui en eſtoit le chef,* & qui vouloit eſtablir des ſocietés par tout le monde, meſme in Afrique & en Amerique, à fin que d'eſtre bien informé de ce qui ſe trouve dans ces pais la: (this methinks the king ſhould know, if he does not already.) *Il parle auſſi de l'eſprit des academiciens, & de leurs ouvrages, & ne dit rien que ſur de bons memoires, qu'il a eut à Rome. Il a outre cela, un traité intitulé,* Philoſophia naturalis variorum, *que ne contient, que des obſervations faites ſur les choſes naturelles par des modernes. Il en a fait auſſi luy meſme, qui ſont curieuſes. Je l'obligerois à donner tout cela au public, ſi j'avois trouvé un libraire,*

libraire, qu'en voulut entreprendre l'impreſſion, & payer pour la copie. C'eſt homme la eſt grand ami de Redi, autheur du traité de la vipere, & de Tilman, ce grand anatomiſte, qui eſt au duc de Florence, comme auſſi d'un Corneli, qui a fait Progymnaſmata Phyſica, *comme je vous manday par une de mes precedentes.*

I THINK I ſhall anſwer to this, that if the perſon that is writing theſe things, and poſſeſſes theſe manuſcripts, be of repute, and the written papers compoſed by ſuch men alſo, printers cannot be wanting in this curious age to publiſh ſuch matters.

I DOUBT Mr. *Sprat* muſt not know, that ſuch a relation is coming abroad of an *Italian* academy, for fear it ſhould yet more ſlacken his deſcription of ours, by begetting in him a curioſity to have a view of that for ſome advantage or other to this.

DR. *Beale* mentions, that in the late great ſtorms, *Oct.* 15, and 31, being the laſt day in the evening, his ☿ was ſubſided half an inch lower than has been theſe two years.

HAVE you heard nothing of the verſes made to the Royal Society, of which I had only ſent me the firſt ſtave, as follows:

Heroic conſtellations, diſpenſe
One ray of your celeſtial influence,
That with this teleſcope I may deſcry
The ſacred treaſures of your panſophy,
Elſe lockt up from the very *Lyncean* eye, *&c.*

I am promiſed the reſt, if my friend can get the true copy. The author ſubſcribes, I hear, *Galeazzo Victorio Villano di Stato*; and I hear there are twenty-ſix ſtaves in all, in which they are taſked to the full, and without reproach.

I HOPE my lady *Angleſey* and Mr. *Southwell* are in *Oxford*, to receive thoſe letters I gave you the trouble of laſt week.

I WONDER I hear nothing yet of the roll with the Prodromus, and that the more, becauſe I underſtand the man that carried it is already come back to *London*.

WE are much afraid here, that theſe *Munſterian* forces that went into *Groninguerland* are in great danger to be drowned there. And as to the ſhips taken and ſunk by the *French*, we ſay here that they were carrying proviſion into *Tunis*, their enemies, and that one of them not only refuſed to ſtrike, being but a merchant, but alſo let fly a broad-ſide againſt the *French*.

THOUGH the non-conformity preachers are ſaid to be baniſhed out of the corporations by act of parliament, yet they have great liberty at preſent here in *London*, many of them preaching publicly in ſeveral pariſh churches, *nemine contradicente*. It ſeems the governors of the land care as little to hinder the ſectary miniſters from preaching, as phyſicians do to keep apothecaries from practiſing phyſic.

I AM glad the count of *Waldeck* is taken off, he being a very good commander both for conduct and action.

THIS is all at preſent from,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 21, 1665.

SEEING you do not appoint me to addreſs my letters to you otherwiſe than I have done, though you withdraw to another place, I continue the former, not doubting but it will come ſafely to your hands. I am ready to receive what ſhall be

printed off of your Hydroſtatical Paradoxes, if you pleaſe to ſend it as you propoſe. I find Mr. *Huygens* is very buſy in making trials of optic glaſſes by a very fine engine, I hear, he has lately cauſed to be made for the purpoſe; but I heard nothing more concerning the book of Colours in *Holland*, though I had lately another letter from Signior *Spinoza*, who is very much your ſervant, and who entertains me with a diſcourſe of his, concerning the agreement and coherence of the parts of the world with the whole; which is not unphiloſophical in my opinion, though it would perhaps be tedious to you to have a letter filled with it; and this makes me forbear to ſend it to you. It is an ill omen, methinks, that the very firſt experiment ſingled out by us out of *Kircher* fails, and that it is likely the next will do ſo too. If it had been convenient for you, to have ſent me your obſervation about the oaker, I ſhould have owned the favour, unleſs you had forbid me, in my next Tranſactions, which are almoſt ready to be ſent to Dr. *Wallis*.

THEY write me from *Paris* that Monſieur *Voſſius* is at the preſent employed in writing a tract of the Origin of the *Nile*, in oppoſition to that Monſieur *de la Chambre*, who is opiniatre in maintaining, that the nitre is the principal cauſe of the inundation of that river. One Monſieur *de Farges* hath written a book *de l'Eſprit*, which I ſhould be glad to ſee, the author being a *Carteſian*; but patience till the commerce be revived.

MONSIEUR *de Son* has made ſome progreſs in his parabolical glaſſes. Monſieur *Auzout* has communicated to me his ſpeculations of the changes, likely to be diſcovered in the earth and moon by their reſpective inhabitants; and ſomewhat of a way he hath invented, to meaſure, by the means of a teleſcope, diſtances of objects upon the earth, by one ſtation, without the uſe of any other inſtrument. And out of *Germany* a friend hath ſome particulars imparted to me of ſalt ſprings, and of an odd ſpring in *Weſtphalia*, of which my next Tranſactions will give an account; where I alſo make a narration of the riſe and attempts of injections into veins, taking aſſiſtance from what you have recorded of that matter in your Uſefulneſs of Experimental Philoſophy; but wanting the preciſe time when it was firſt ſtarted by Dr. *Wren* at *Oxford*, which if you do remember, or any of your friends, I pray let it be expreſſed, and corrected what I may have erred in, who have ſet down that it was about ſix years ago when the firſt mention of it was made in *England*, long before any others, as far as we know, thought on ſuch a thing. If I had had my own book I lent to Dr. *Clerk*, and that which you had lately from *Hamburgh*, I ſhould have been a little more particular in that buſineſs; but I hope what I have ſaid will be ſufficient.

FOR ſtate-news, I can tell you that *France* ſeems to careſs *Spain*, having lately ſent to *Madrid* an envoy, M. *de Belſont*, to declare that the king will keep the treaty between the two crowns; which looks like a trick, to divert *Spain* from being too great with *England*. Though the *French* be generally for the *Dutch*, yet there are ſome that wiſh very well to the *Engliſh*; and I hear that libels have been lately ſcattered at *Paris*, importing that the government of *England* is far to be preferred to that of *France*, and that it were better for them to declare for the king of *England*. The ſame letter mentions, that the *Dutch* who are at *Paris*, ſay that *France* hath done them more miſchief than good; for if they had not been aſſured by them of ſea and land aſſiſtance, they had never begun the war. From *Bourdeaux* come high complaints, that their wines muſt lie this year upon their hands, there being no *Dutch* ſhips come or coming to fetch them away; which will certainly vex both the gentry and merchants extremely, whoſe eſtates, principally in thoſe parts, do for the moſt part conſiſt in wines.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER letter from *Paris* mentions, that my lord St. *Albans* is coming over with new propoſitions for peace; and that the king of *France* thinks himſelf ſure of the *Swedes*, having augmented their penſion by 200,000 crowns *per annum*. It adds, *que le duc de Luneburg a declaré, qu'il ne vouloit point prendre le parte d'un preſte, qui en hazardont tout, ne hazardont rien du ſien.* This is an inſtructive conſideration in the opinion of,

SIR,

your very faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR *R. Moray* mentions, that I ſhould receive Mr. *Auzout*'s letter from you.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 5, 1665.

THOUGH I have received the favour of your letter from *Dec.* 1, yet I have not ſeen thoſe two ſheets, which you therein mention, of the Hydroſtatical Paradoxes, nor that printed letter of M. *Auzout*'s, which a fortnight ſince Sir *R. Moray* told me was in your hands; whence I was to receive it for my lord *Brounker*, in order to compare it with the *Hevelian* Prodromus. I think it will be moſt convenient every way, to remit Signior *Spinoza*'s diſcourſe *de conſenſu partium*, till our perſonal interview, which I hope the goodneſs of God will grant us ere long, the bills decreaſing more and more very comfortably. I humbly thank you for Dr. *Beale*'s letter, and I doubt not but you ſaw a copy of the ſwelling verſes made upon our Society, and containing a bundle of big interrogatories, which did put me in mind of the old ſaying, that one fool can make more queſtions than ten wiſe men can anſwer. But I will paſs to my philoſophical intelligence.

TAKE this, if you pleaſe, from *Rome: Campani* hath had the advantage over *Euſtachio de Divinis*; the great duke of *Tuſcany* and prince *Leopold*, after they had tried both, found thoſe of *Campani* better; with one whereof they ſaw men at four leagues diſtance, and diſtinguiſhed them eaſily. *Riccioli* is buſy at his Aſtronomical Tables. The Jeſuit *Grimaldi* has made a treatiſe *De Lumine & Coloribus*. *Redi* hath made other experiments of vipers ſince he publiſhed his book upon that ſubject; and hath obſerved, that thoſe herbs which are ſaid to be mortal to them, are not ſo; but that ſalt and ſugar are. [I pray, Sir, if you have the convenience of trying this with ſalt and ſugar, let it be a part of your divertiſement, and oblige me to acquaint me with the ſucceſs.] Farther, at *Florence* they have been making experiments upon ſalts, and found that the figures of them in each herb are different. And as to their experiments ſo long talked of, I now hear that they will not be printed yet theſe four or five months. The book of vipers is printed at *Paris* in *Italian*, and I am promiſed it, with other things, at the firſt opportunity of ſending.

As for ſtate news, I ſhall give it you as I received it lately from *France*: *Il y a un livre, dont l'autheur ſe veut mocquer des Hollandois & de François, parlant du roy aſſez librement; mais je ne le trouve pas bien ſpirituel. On croit, qu'enfin vous nous ferez la guerre; on s'y attend, & on s'y prepare. Les Hollandois de leur coſté s'y reſolvent, aimants mieux faire la guerre avec la France contre vous, que de faire une paix deſadvantageuſe, & dependre des Anglois. On ne parle icy que de millions & de ſommes ſi exceſſives, que ſi je vous les diſois, vous ne croiriez pas, que dans toute l'Europe il y eût tant de bien. Il eſt certain, que la France a des grands avantages a preſent: un roy jeune & entreprenant; point de favory, pour cauſer des cabales; abondance d'argent, & partant de toutes choſes; un roy d'Eſpagne, & un empereur, foibles & pauvres tous deux.* (I confeſs theſe advantages are important

important, and to be considered.) *On affiché au palais du roy d'Espagne, devant qu'il mourut cette* Pasquinade: *el prencipe esta malo; el rey es de palo; l'infanta se casa: quien al quila esta casa.* You need no interpreter, nor, I hope, any assurance of my being,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

P. S. I intreat you, Sir, do me the favour, and impart to me your thoughts of the thriving of the mathematical or *Cartesian* philosophy in our universities, whether there be not now more of the young pregnant men that relish it than formerly.

I DO intend, God willing, to write very shortly to Sir *John Finch:* if you please to command me any service to him, I am ready to receive and to convey it.

I HUMBLY thank you for your intention of retrieving the *Hamburgh* book for me, and of communicating the observations about oaker, and the employments where now you are.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 19, 1665.

I SHALL begin this with taking notice of what you conclude your last with, concerning Dr. *Beale*'s barometrical observations. These I received not, till after my last to you; and it seems that our friend would have notice given to the public of the baroscope, in the Transactions; yet not without offering it first to your advice and directions. He intends then to send to you his calendar and some results, that they may be compared with Dr. *Power*'s calendar, and others of the southern distance from him (Dr. *Power*) and the east from himself; that so it may be discovered whether the air gravitates more in the east, or west, north, or south; towards sea or land; in hotter or colder weather; and keeps the same seasons of changes; and by this publication, to awaken others to explicate the phænomena yet in the dark.

AFTER this, he abbreviates to me some particulars, viz.

" 1. MY wheel-barometer (saith he) I could never fill so exactly as to exclude all " air, and therefore I trust more to a mercurial cane, and take all my notes from it. " It is but 35 inches long, of a very slender cavity, and thick glass. This may " easily be conveyed to any place for trials. The mercurial vessel is about two " inches wide; the mercury so well filled, that for some days it would not subside, " but hung to the top of the glass-cane. I keep it in a closet pretty close, 9 feet " high, 8 feet broad, 15 feet long, near a window. This I note (saith he) because " possibly the closeness of the room may hinder, that it gives not the full of all " changes, as it might in more passable air.

" 2. IN my observations from *May* 28, 1664, to the present, the mercury never " ascended but very little above $30\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

" 3. IT ascended very seldom to $30\frac{1}{4}$ inches, chiefly in *Dec.* 13, 1664, the weather " fickle-fair, in the evening.

" 4. IN my calendar of *June* 22, 1664, I find at five in the morning, in a time " of long settled fair weather, the mercury had risen about $\frac{1}{4}$ an inch higher than " 30; but I fear some mistake, because I then took no impression of wonder at it; " yet for three or four days, at that time, it continued high in well settled, fair and " warm weather, most part above 30 inches; so that I may note, the mercury to " ascend as high in the hottest summer weather, as in the coldest winter weather.

" 5. YET surely I have noted it to ascend a little higher for the coldness of the " weather; as very frequently, both in winter and summer, to be higher in the cold " mornings and evenings, than in the warmer mid-day.

" 6. GENERALLY in ſettled and fair weather, both of winter and ſummer, the " mercury is higher than a little before, or after, or in, rainy weather.

" 7. AND generally it deſcends lower after rain, than it was before rain.

" 8. GENERALLY alſo it falls in great winds, and ſomewhat it ſeemed to ſink, " when I have opened a wide door, to let in ſtormy winds. Yet I have found it " to continue very high in a long ſtormy wind of three or four days.

" 9. AGAIN, generally it is higher in an eaſt and north wind (*cæteris paribus*) than " in a ſouth and weſt wind.

" 10. I TRIED ſeveral times, by ſtrong fumes and thick ſmokes, to alter the air " in my cloſet; but I cannot affirm that the mercury yielded any more than might " be expected from ſome increaſe of heat. Such as have exact wheel-barometers, " may try whether odours or fumes do alleviate the air.

" 11. IN this cloſet I have not, in all this time, found the extremeſt changes of " the mercury to amount to more than $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches; of $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, I am full ſure." So far our obſerving friend.

SIR, if you think that the publiſhing of ſuch particulars as theſe may aſſiſt to excite others to make the like obſervations, and ſhall pleaſe to inſtruct me with the orders for bounds and method in the publiſhing, I am moſt ready to follow your directions; though, I confeſs, Mr. *Davies* wrote me the other day ſo heavy a letter, that it would very much ſlacken any man's pace in continuing ſuch labour. For he tells me, that of the firſt Tranſactions he printed, he then, when he wrote (*Dec.* 16.) had not vended above three hundred; and that he fears there will hardly ſell ſo many as to repay the charge of paper and printing: ſo that, it ſeems, my pains and trouble would be of no avail to me. Yet he concludes, that notwithſtanding theſe diſcouragements, if you and I do think fit to have any more printed at *Oxford*, he will readily ſerve us in the managing thereof, and the preſent diſburſing of the charge; intimating withal, that he undertook to print theſe papers, and to give the author, as his friends had propoſed, yet provided he might be ſecured from being a loſer by it.

WHAT to ſay to this, I know not: if Mr. *Davies* give over, it will look very ill; and if he continue, I muſt ſuffer very much there too. He thinks *London* being like to be open now for commerce, if he do ſend to three or four active ſtationers, in ſeveral quarters of the town; and beſides to *Cambridge*, *Exeter*, *Briſtol*, *&c. item* into *Ireland*, *Scotland*, a far greater number ſhould then go off: but if he be not a man of an active and large correſpondence, I had done much better never to have committed it to him. He ſhould, when he ſends copies to Mr. *Thompſon*, ſend ſome to a good bookſeller about the *Exchange* (for there, I find, they are enquired after) and to another about *Dunſtan*'s in *Fleet-ſtreet*, and to another about *Weſtminſter*, and ſo diſperſe them to the chief parts of the city, eſpecially now carriers begin to return hither. Before I received this dull letter of his, I had already diſpatched away to Dr. *Wallis* my manuſcript, for the month of *January*; which, I think, he muſt print; but if in the interim he ſpeed not better, we muſt then conſider of another expedient, or let it fall. I am afraid, there being a kind of conjuration, and a very myſtical one, among ſtationers, and *Alleſtry* having taken a ſnuff, he does, it may be, ſo collogue with *Davies*, that by not forwarding the vent of theſe Tranſactions, they may bring down the price to their lure. I muſt aſk your pardon for troubling you with ſo faſtidious a ſtory; concerning which, I am willing to ſubmit to the advice of my friends. I have not yet received any ſheet of your hydroſtatical papers, nor a penny from Mr. *Davies*, beſides the five pounds you were pleaſed to make over for me.

SIR,

SIR, I doubt I ſhall not be ſo happy as to receive a particular advice from you, touching this troubleſome buſineſs, ſeeing it muſt paſs through the hands of an amanuenſis; yet, though it be given a little ænigmatically, I truſt I may find out the meaning.

THE performance of Mr. *Reeves*'s glaſs, of ſeeing the ſhape of windows, and the differing colours of the ſtones, and the weather-work upon the *Harrow* ſteeple, I ſuppoſe to have been done by his ſixty feet glaſs; but I believe that of *Campani*'s, tried at *Florence*, was not above thirty-five feet; whereof I expect more particulars ſhortly. As to the ſale of his longeſt glaſs to ſome virtuoſo abroad, that is not like to be, becauſe himſelf has obſtructed it, by what I find printed by Mr. *Auzout*, who ſaith, that a while ago a perſon of ſome quality having told *Reeves* that at *Paris* there were glaſſes, drawing the ſame length with his, that did bear a greater aperture, *& des oculaires plus forts* (leaving him thereupon to judge whether they were better) that perſon received no other anſwer from him, but that his glaſs was exceeding good, and that thoſe who did not think the ſame ſhould not think to have any of them. In the ſame place, the ſaid Mr. *Auzout* takes notice, that the teleſcope, ſent by his majeſty to the duke of *Orleans*, made by *Reeves*, bears no more aperture than two inches and three lines *French*; and that that of the ſame *Reeves*, of ſixty feet, bears not much above three inches aperture; whereas his (Mr. *Auzout*'s) glaſs of twenty-one feet, has commonly two inches four or ſix lines aperture, *French* meaſure (which you know does ſomewhat exceed the *Engliſh*;) and another of his, of fifteen feet, bears two inches, which latter is the aperture of *Reeves*'s glaſs, of thirty feet long.

I AM ſorry I had not the favour of your laſt letter ſoon enough, to take notice of what you ſuggeſt, concerning your ſuſpenſion of making further experiments of cold this winter, in the next Tranſactions, the manuſcript whereof I had ſent away two days before, making the more haſte, that it might be printed off before the feſtival days. If they be continued, the next to theſe may ſeaſonably enough, I think, make mention thereof.

I WRITE this very day to my lord *Brounker*, to ſend to him Mr. *Auzout*'s letter, together with your ſalute. I hope his lordſhip will now ſhortly be in town again, which fills apace; and the like I do of Dr. *Wilkins* and others. Did not I underſtand that your book *De Origine qualitatum* was alſo begun to be printed? I long to hear what ſubject of devotion you are employed upon, as alſo what work Dr. *Wallis* has in hand; and am glad you have retrieved thoſe philoſophical papers about ſenſation and occult quantities, *&c.* I met the other day, in the Aſtrological diſcourſe of Sir *Chriſtopher Heydon*, with an experiment, which he affirms to have tried himſelf, importing that cold accompanies reflected light, by employing burning ſpherical concaves, or parabolical ſections, which, he ſaith, will as ſenſibly reflect the actual cold of ſnow, or ice, as it will the heat of the ſun. I would fain have this come *ex ore duorum aut trium*, the ſole teſtimony or affirmation of ſo deep an aſtrologer as that gentleman was, being not likely to be received by ſevere philoſophers.

No letters came from *France* to me ſince my laſt; but I hear from others, that they will make up a war fleet of thirty ſail for next ſummer, and that that king relies ſo much upon his money (which he thinks to exceed three or four times the treaſury of our king) and the ſtrength and number of the *Dutch* ſhipping, and the conjunction of *Sweden* and ſome *German* princes, that he will be able to tire *England* out, whom he believes not capable to continue a long war. Our Eaſtland fleet of thirty-ſeven merchant-men, and ſeventeen men of war, is now come home very well,

God

God be thanked, laden with ſtore of naval ammunitions. A good ſquadron of *Engliſh* frigates are ſhortly to ſet ſail for the *Streights*, where they will find work enough, in the perſuaſion of,

SIR,

your very humble,

and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 30, 1665.

YOUR laſt ſpeaks ſo much favour and care for my concerns, that I cannot write of any thing before I have given you the aſſurance of my humble and hearty acknowledgments, which I hope I ſhall have occaſion ſo to demonſtrate the realneſs of, as to convince you I hate ingratitude.

I SHALL not trouble you with repeating here what I ſaid on *Tueſday* laſt to Dr. *Wallis*, about the printing the Tranſactions for the month of *January*, becauſe I find by your letter, that you did intend to be on that, or the next day, at *Oxford*, where you are likely to receive that trouble from my letter to the ſaid doctor. I wiſh only there be no colluſion among the ſtationers, and that the deadneſs of trade and correſpondency into which the reaſſuming of the printing of thoſe papers is fallen, may not prove too great a prejudice to the diſperſing of them for the future.

ON *Thurſday* Mr. *Hatherton* brought me the four pound, for which I gave him my receipt, and cannot but give you particular thanks; but am afraid Mr. *Davies* will prove backward in repaying them. He ſeems to intimate in his letter to me, as if Dr. *Wallis* would bind him to that printer, who has hitherto done the Tranſactions, and as if the making uſe of another printer, who would duly ſupply him with copies, would conduce to the better diſperſing of them. I believe, if this were ſo, he might eaſily receive ſatisfaction in this point.

MR. *Crook*, who was the other day in *London*, told me, that there were not above two hundred copies left of your Hiſtory of Cold, that he was ready to reprint the Sceptical Chemiſt, as ſoon as he could get men to work, many printers being carried away, among the reſt, by this ſad contagion, which, God be bleſſed, is now fallen to one hundred and fifty-two.

I HAVE now received the ſix ſheets of your Hydroſtatical Paradoxes, which I have read with much ſatisfaction, as being very clear and inſtructive; and I ſpend now a part of my time in putting them into *Latin*; which if you think fit to have alſo printed at *Oxford*, and that with ſpeed, I am ready from week to week to ſend you my ſheets, upon your order.

THIS very day I had an anſwer from my lord *Brounker* to my late letter to his lordſhip, and to Mr. *Auzout*'s printed animadverſions upon the *Hevelian Prodromus*. He ſaith, he cannot ground his opinion well upon what is in difference between thoſe two obſervers, until he ſees the laſt obſervations made by Mr. *Hook*, and what there are of *February* 18, or later; and he adds, that the difference depending upon matter of fact, it is the authority, number and reputation of other obſervers, that muſt caſt the balance. Thus far his lordſhip of this particular, which he concludes with returning his humble ſervice to you. Mr. *Hook* is now here, as well as Dr. *Wilkins*; and I find that the former is not like at all to relieve *Hevelius* by his obſervations extending to the 10th of *March*, which I have preſſed him to look out, and to communicate to thoſe perſons that have read and conſidered both *Hevelius* and *Auzout*. This I intend alſo to acquaint Dr. *Wallis* with, by this very poſt.

MONSIEUR *de Son* hath now ready one of his new-fashioned watches, furnished with a slender spring, instead of of a pendulum, to regulate the balancer, which is ten times heavier, as he saith, than others, to command and bridle the wheels, and thereby to cause an equality in their motion. He tells me he will, by the first conveniency, send it to his majesty, having also one or two more in hand for the duke of *York* and prince *Rupert*. He assured me also, the last time I saw him, that at his next visit he would shew me his parabolical object-glass finished; which I now, with great impatience, look for every hour.

FOR news of state, I believe, Sir, you have heard ere this the discourse that fell out lately between the duke of *Albemarle* and the *Dutch* ambassador; the latter whereof giving a visit to the other, took occasion to intimate to him, that there lying upon him such weighty affairs at land, he could surely not be dispensed with to go to sea. To which the duke is said to have resolutely answered, that if God granted him any measure of health, he would be with them before the middle of *April*, and see whether they would do him reason. The ambassador replying, that he doubted not but his countrymen would acquit themselves well, the duke made answer (as I was told by one that said he was present) that he would fight them any where, and give them the advantage of a fourth, both as to number of men, ships and guns; not doubting of the blessing of God against a people, that were so guilty of both ingratitude and breach of promise, the former being notorious to all the world, and the latter being also evident, by the not restoring of *Poleroon*. To which the ambassador replying, that the former charge was more easily made than proved, and the latter did concern the *East India* company, not the States General; the duke returned, that as to the point of ingratitude, he was persuaded that they did find proof enough of it in their own consciences; and as to the other, they were accustomed to it, to shift off from one to another the injuries they did to princes and other nations. Many other reciprocations there passed betwixt them, about the grasping of trade on one side, the want of money for carrying on a long war on the other, and the like, which would be too tedious for a letter.

IT is not unlikely, but some disorders may arise in *France*, the prince of *Condé* being fallen into new discontents, and the king having lately by his declarations in the *Parisian* parliament, cast a great consternation into all sorts of people, but those that are his creatures, and depend altogether upon his crown.

WE hear the bishop of *Munster* is in a condition good enough, and hath more than once offered the enemy battle, which they avoided. The *Lunenburg* forces seeming to be backward for action, maketh many think that the king of *England* hath good friends amongst them, and count *Waldeck* himself.

SURELY I need not tell you from hence, what is said here with great joy of the discovery of a north-west passage, made by two *English* and one *French* man, lately represented by them to his majesty at *Oxford*, and answered by a royal grant of a vessel, to sail into *Hudson*'s bay, and thence into the *South Sea*, these men affirming, as I hear, that with a boat they went out of a lake in *Canada* into a river, which discharged itself north-west into the *South Sea*, into which they went, and returned north-east into *Hudson*'s bay. I hope, if this be truth, I shall receive the favour of your confirmation, together with a correction of mistakes as to the particulars.

I SEND here enclosed the sequel of Dr. *Beale*'s barometrical observations, concerning which he will be very glad, as well as myself, to hear your judgment. I remain,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful servant,

H. O.

The

The ſequel of Dr. BEALE's *barometrical notes.*

1. VERY often I have found great changes in the air, without any perceptible change in the barometer; as in the dewy nights, when the moiſture deſcends in a great quantity, and ſometimes the thickneſs ſeems to hide the ſtars from us; in the days foregoing and following, the vapours have been drawn up ſo inviſibly, that the air and ſky ſeemed very clear all day: this I count a great change, between aſcending and deſcending dews and vapours (which import levity and weight) and between thick air and clear air; which changes do ſometimes continue in the alternative courſe of day and night, for a week or a fortnight together, the barometer holding the ſame.

2. SOMETIMES (to this I ſay not often) the barometer yields not to other very great changes of the air; as yeſterday (*Dec.* 18.) an extraordinary bright and clear day, and this day (*Dec.* 19.) quite darkened, ſome rain and ſnow now falling, the mercury the ſame. So in high winds, tempeſts, and calms, the ſame.

3. I DO conceive that ſuch as converſe much *ſub dio*, and walk much abroad, may find many particulars much more exactly than I can undertake. To inſtance one of many; *Saturday* laſt (*Dec.* 16.) was a clear cold day, very ſharp and ſtrong eaſt winds, the mercury very near thirty inches high. About three in the afternoon I ſaw a large black cloud drawing near us, from the eaſt and ſouth-eaſt, with the eaſt wind. The mercury changed not that day, nor the day following; yet I laid a wager the weather would change before the morning. The ſtars and moſt of the ſky were very bright and clear till nine (*Dec.* 16.) and then ſuddenly all the ſky was darkened: yet I loſt my wager, no change of weather. *Dec.* 17, the froſt held, and a clear day; about two of the clock in the evening, many thick clouds low in the weſt; yet no change of weather (rain or ſnow) fell here: the wind, froſt and mercury the ſame. *Dec.* 18, the mercury fell almoſt a quarter of an inch, and the ſky and air ſo clear and bright and cold, and eaſt wind, that I wondered what could cauſe the mercury to deſcend. I expected it ſhould have aſcended, as uſually in ſuch clear ſkies. Caſually I ſent my man abroad, and he diſcovered the remote hills, about twenty miles off, covered with ſnow. This ſeemed to diſcover, that the air being emptied of the clouds by ſnow, became lighter.

I PRAY you, take further notice for Mr. *Boyle*, that from *Thurſday* evening to this preſent, *Dec.* 19, there has been a ſharp and hard froſt, the ice bearing the ſliding boys, and the froſt deep in the earth. This the country people here called a wind froſt. It was very cold within doors, as in great froſts, but no freezing within doors, or very little. Roſe-water did not freeze in my window; nor did any froſt or dew drops in the leaſt ſtick upon the glaſs in the windows. *Tueſday*, *Saturday*, and *Sunday*, the graſs continued green; *Monday* and *Tueſday* the graſs very white with froſt, yet no dew on the windows: not in a very little chamber, where four perſons lay near the window. This muſt be referred to Mr. *Boyle*'s examination, whether the freezing corpuſcles are more in force by the motion and agitation of the air and winds; and how far they paſs with the air. The air gets to my barometer, when the wind does not; and where the wind ſtrikes not much, the freezing is ineffectual.

I WISH alſo, that ſuch as have perfect ſcales would try whether mercury does not change its weight or bulk in ſome changes of air, and whether cold and heat, as by weighing it in a bladder, ſeveral times the ſame; and when the barometer does moſt of all diſappoint expectation; and at greateſt changes.

HENCEFORTH for ſome days I ſhall try another method upon the barometer, obſerving it as it is before my eyes all day long, and eſpecially at all changes in the air and weather, *&c.*

THIS ſummer I had ſeveral ſmall funnels, of a ſmall hole at the bigger end, and a very ſmall ſhank, about eight inches long. I filled one with the oil or ſpirit of amber, the other with ſpirit of turpentine (both drawn, as it is commonly ſold, by the widow *Matthews*.) Other funnels I filled with ſpirit of wine, and then cloſed both ends with hard wax, to try what the motion of amber and turpentine would be, compared with ſpirit of wine, to the purpoſe of Mr. *Boyle*'s note, in his Hiſtory of Cold, p. 63. I met with many diſappointments, but had them ſome ſummer weeks before my eyes in my ſtudy window. And ſometimes I ſaw the amber ſtir by ſtarts, as by a ſpring, which I gueſſed to be cauſed by the viſcous adheſion to the pipe of the glaſs. I told you about that time of a black ſtuff in my ſealed thermometer, which hath diſagreeing motions, ſometimes in five parts, at much diſtance, ſometimes nearer in two parts, ſometimes in three, ſometimes cloſe together in one, *&c.* This I regiſtered in ſummer, and now in winter, and it is ſomewhat ſtrange to me.

SIR, *London, Jan.* 16, 1665-6.

THE favour of your laſt, without any date of time or place, I received this day, and was very glad to find therein your approbation of what Dr. *Beale* has obſerved of the barometer; whereof if any thing be publiſhed in the Tranſactions, I ſhall, God willing, punctually obſerve the orders of your letter. I rejoice alſo to underſtand you are upon ſuch a book of devotion, as you have now been pleaſed to expreſs to me; ſuch treatiſes, ſolidly done, being too much wanting, to keep men in this curious and nice age from the diſreliſh of divinity. Mr. *Crook* being now returned for good and all, will be acquainted with what you mention about the printing of the Scept. Chemiſt, as ſoon as I ſhall paſs that way. The laſt time I ſaw him, he expreſſed deſire enough to go on in the printing of the *Latin* Hiſtory of Cold, as ſoon as workmen could but be obtained, which of that trade have died in very great numbers. When the preſs is ready for the *Latin* of the Hydroſtatical Paradoxes, I hope not to be unready to comply with it. I am ſorry you had not a ſight of the manuſcript for the laſt Tranſactions, when it was in Dr. *Wallis*'s hands, that you might have ordered the title of the book of Forms, *&c.* according to your mind. But I may take occaſion hereafter, to accuſe myſelf for miſtaking the title. If the Tranſactions be printed at *London* again, (which yet is very doubtful, becauſe of the plague keeping ſtill on foot, and diſcouraging all ſorts of people from ſettling to buſineſs) you are like to find in the next ſome account of the particulars contained in the *Italian* treatiſe of vipers, which has the reputation, I perceive, to have been compoſed with much care and accurateneſs. It ſeems the author lodges that poiſon in the two veſicles, that are about the vipers teeth, and maintains by experiments, that all the wounds of animals that he rubbed with this liquor contained in thoſe bags, proved mortal. But I refer to the print. From *Paris* I did lately receive an experiment, made of the lungs of a human fœtus, which I ſhall give you in my author's own words.

Un de mes amis ayant mis le poumon d'un fœtus dans un ſceau plein d'eau, ce poulmon eſt deſcendu auſſi toſt au fond, & en ſoufflant dedans il eſt monté au deſſus. Tous les poumons (ſo he goes on) *des autres animeaux ne deſcendent pas, ce qui fait voir, que dans le ventre de la mere les enfans ne reſpirent pas, & que leur poumons n'agiſſent point.*

FROM *Amſterdam* I have an humble ſalutation for you from Mr. *Laurenz de Geer*, and Mr. *Serrarius*; the former whereof having lately received the whole remainder of the tranſlation of the Old Teſtament into the *Turkiſh* language, entreats you to favour him with an anſwer to the following queries, for the encouragement of the printing that part of the holy Scriptures.

1. WHETHER

1. WHETHER in *England* they print with vowels, or without?

2. How much is paid to the printer *per* ſheet; and whether the printer muſt pay the correctors?

3. WHETHER the *Engliſh* have alſo letters with vowels on top; and whether Mr. *Boyle* hath cauſed the letters to be cut or graven at his own charge; or whether the printer has paid them; and how many there are of them; and how much they coſt?

4. WHAT the paper amounts to?

5. WHAT number of copies are to be printed?

6. To ſend over one ſheet, as it is maculated with the corrections. This is, I ſuppoſe, a periphraſis of what we call a proof-ſheet corrected.

THESE things reſolved being likely to ſerve them for the better printing of the Old Teſtament, I doubt not, Sir, but you will give yourſelf the trouble of ſatisfying them therein.

M. *Serrarius* tells me, that he is watching for a ſafe conveniency to tranſmit Mr. *Borrel*'s copied manuſcript; but adds (which I am ſurpriſed at) that the account of the copies amounts to ſixty-ſeven gilders, and ten ſtivers, there being an hundred thirty-five leaves, each ten ſtivers. The three pounds which you furniſhed, I have already ſent; witneſs his friend's acquittance, not only for that ſum, but for two pounds more, which I added, and would have made up the reſt, if I had been able. In the mean time, I have intimated to *Serrarius*, that it is a pretty big ſum for a writing not yet ſeen by us; and that he needs not doubt, after we have ſeen it, to receive all reaſonable ſatisfaction for it from hence.

I AM now caſting about, how I may procure for our aſtronomers here ſome perſon or other in remote parts, that would join their endeavours with us, for finding out the true diſtance of the ſun and moon from the earth, by an agreement made on certain times between the two obſervators, furniſhed with good teleſcopes, prepared for that purpoſe, by a meaſuring rod placed within the eye-glaſs at a convenient diſtance, as will be more largely directed, when the ſaid correſpondency ſhall be procured. I have *Portugal* and St. *Helen*'s in my thoughts; but am afraid the former is too near us, and the latter deſtitute of a fit apparatus. Yeſterday I wrote to Mr. *Hevelius* his doom, ſhewing my letter to our preſident, who fully approved of it.

TO add the ſtate-news, I have only theſe *French* particulars.

1. *Les eſperances de la paix s'evanouiſſent, & on croit, que la rupture eſt aſſurée entre les deux couronnes. Cependant le nombre des malcontens augmente icy tous les jours à cauſe des taxes, qu'on fait paier aux gens d'affaires, & de l'evaluation, qu'on a faite des charges. Mais les peuples ne ſont jamais contens. Ceux, qui gouvernent, ne ſe ſoucient pas d'eux, pourvû qu'ils les craignent.*

2. *On leve icy des troupes, mais on aura de la peine à faire une armée comme celle qui a eſté caſſée: il faut plus de 20 ans de guerre pour en faire une ſemblable.*

3. *Quand l'empereur aura eſpouſé l'infante, il tachera d'obliger l'Allemagne à deffendre les Païs Bas, qui eſt le cercle de Bourgogne, qu'il aura à cauſe de ſa femme.*

4. *Les Suedois en voulent à Breme, & on ne croit pas, qu'ils agiront contre l'eveſque de Munſter, ny contre l'Angleterre.*

5. *On dit, que la ligue entre la maiſon d'Auſtriche & voſtre Roy eſt ſignée. Si le Portugal s'accommode avec l'Eſpagne, la choſe eſt hors de doubte.*

THE encloſed is an extract of what was further received of Dr. *Beale*'s barometrical obſervations by,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR,

SIR, I doubt the good news we had here, of the diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage, is not true, becauſe you would elſe, I am perſuaded, have done me the favour of confirming it by a word or two.

Extract of more barometrical obſervations.

I MUST obtrude upon you more barometricals, as occaſioned by the good news you give me of honourable Mr *Boyle*'s hydroſtatics coming abroad. For it ſeems to me, that the barometer ought to be an appendage to hydroſtatics; and no man ſo fit or ſo able to give an account of it as Mr. *Boyle*, whoſe right it is. And to me it ſeems the moſt wonderful diſcovery that ever was in the world; I dare not except magnetiſms, if we ſpeak of ſtrangeneſs, and juſt wonder, and philoſophical importance, ſeparated from the intereſt of lucre. For who could ever expect that we men ſhould find an art to weigh all the air that hangs over our heads, in all changes of it, and as it were to weigh and diſtinguiſh by weight the winds and the clouds? Or who could believe, that by palpable evidence we ſhould be able to prove the ſereneſt air to be moſt heavy; that thick air, and when darkeſt clouds hang neareſt to us, ready to diſſolve, or dropping, then to be lighteſt. To ſend a ſervant any hour of day or night, to bring information what the weight of the air, winds, or clouds. And ſurely this belongs to hydroſtatics: and though we cannot yet reach to all the uſes and applications of it, yet we ſhould be entertained by the inventor for a while upon the delight and wonder. The main I now can add to my former notes, is, that I have ſeldom ſeen the change to be very great at any one time. I do not now take a deliberate view of my notes, but I wondered once to ſee that in one day it ſunk about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch. Of late I have altered my method, and am watching (by day, and much of the night) for the moments of every particular change, to examine what cauſe may appear of every change. And now my wonder is to ſee how ſlow it is, and how little it does change at a time: it holds moſt between the 29th and 30th inch of late.

MAY it belong to hydroſtatics to enquire, whether a pound of ſugar grows heavier when it gathers mixture in damp air? A grocer's wife would ſo perſuade us, and pretends to betray another's fraudulent frugality, whilſt ſhe kept her ſugar by the fire, and ſold the more for the money and weight. So ſalt ſeems to draw the aquatic particles of air, for increaſe of weight; and yet conſumes and waſtes by expiration. And I cannot tell whether ſalts (ſome more than other) may not expire and operate through a ſealed glaſs. I have ſeen them diſſolve through diſhes, and wooden veſſels, which retain water; and water paſſes through ſome wooden veſſels, which retained mercury; and yet mercury paſſes through other ſmall poroſities, where water is arreſted. This was in my thoughts, when I read in Mr. *Boyle*'s Cold, pag. 51. that ſome liquors have peculiar textures; and ibid. pag. 59, 60, 61. of a thermometer yielding to an irregular contagion.

JANUARY 5 and 6, in the mornings, the glaſs windows were full of drops, though the weather very fair and warm. It was not ſo, ſince I wrote of it before, though ſometimes great froſts, and ſometimes rain, and much dew without, and on our marbles within. And now a ſaltſeller, which I had emptied of the ſalt, had taken a good quantity of ſalt water, which I conceive to be drawn thither by the ſpirit of ſalt, reſiding in the metal. Is no kind of liquor ſometimes heavier than at other times, by change of weather, drought or moiſture, heat or cold?

THESE alſo, I pray you, with my humble ſervice to the truly honourable Mr. *Boyle*.

SIR, *London, January* 27, 1665-6.

THE favour of your laſt of *January* 20, came not to me till this morning; after I had ſpoken with Mr. *Crook* about the reprinting of the Scept. Chemiſt, concerning which I found him ſo eager, that he aſſured he would, as ſoon as he had the promiſed additions, immediately give order for another impreſſion, adding, that if he had not been unwilling to offend you, he might have printed and ſold a ſecond edition of another 500 copies ere this, to good advantage; and therefore entreats you, as ſoon as conveniently you can, to expedite to him what is to be added; and engages withal, to cauſe the *Latin* Hiſtory of Cold to be likewiſe diſpatched forthwith. I find that *Micrography*'s *Latin* tranſlation is advanced to obſervation 50 excluſive; where, I ſuppoſe, it is chiefly that omiſſions are expected; the directions whereof would now, I think, be ſeaſonable, if addreſſed to Dr. *Wilkins* (with whom the buſineſs was tranſacted) without naming me for this intimation. As for the *Latin* of the Uſefulneſs, *&c.* which is with me, it begins (as I remember you directed, when it was undertaken) at the fifth Eſſay of the ſecond part, and is thence advanced to the thirteenth chapter; where it is not like to ſtick long, my purpoſe being, God granting me further health, to finiſh it with all poſſible ſpeed, now I have done what has been ſent to me of the Hydroſtatics, which is to pag. 128. having as yet received no more of it; and when more comes, that and the ſequel of the Uſefulneſs may employ me by turns. I have this day ſent *Schottus* to M. *Hatherton*, humbly thanking you for it, and begging your pardon for keeping it ſo long; which yet I would not have preſumed to do, if it had not been for the ſad calamity we have ſo long lain under. Sir, you will much oblige me by the communication of the particulars of the earthquake you mention, (but we have heard as yet nothing of) and of thoſe relations of gigantic bones you intimate to have received formerly. When I ſee Mr. *Hook*, I ſhall tell him what you bid me. He is now buſy about his pocket-watches (which he thinks *de Son* hath taken from him) and his new faſhioned chariot, which our preſident, who went in it from *London* to colonel *Blount*'s houſe, finds not unexceptionable, no more than he does that of the ſaid colonel: but it is hoped that the defects in both do admit of emendations, which, I ſuppoſe, the inventors are now employed about. We hear the earl of St. *Albans* has brought alſo one from *Paris*, finer than any yet ſeen, of which I ſhall be glad to hear more certain and more particular news. I waited yeſterday upon our preſident to Mr. *de Son*'s houſe, who ſhewed us three of his intended parabolar object glaſſes, but evaded the putting them into a tube for trial, by pretending that one of them, which he looked upon as very good (being of *Venice* glaſs, the other being but of ordinary *Engliſh* glaſs) was not yet perfectly poliſhed. My lord thinks the figure rather hyperbolical (and therefore fitter for teleſcopes) than parabolical: and this artiſt profeſſing himſelf no critic, nor ſo much as at all verſed in the terms of art, is likely enough to miſtake the one for the other, and to do better in this caſe than he ſpeaks; which error we ſhall early pardon him. Thoſe of the Society, that are now in *London*, do endeavour to get a good collection of natural and artificial curioſities for the Society's repoſitory; and they hope to make ſhortly an acqueſt of a very good ſtock of that kind, which will look as ſomething towards a foundation, and will invite generous men to increaſe it from time to time. We have thoughts of engaging as many of the Society as are cordial, and have opportunity to obſerve and bring in what is any ways conſiderable of natural productions in *England*, *Ireland*, *Scotland*, every one his ſymbol, for the bringing together a natural hiſtory of what is in the ſaid kingdom, as well as we intend to collect what is abroad, by enlarging our correſpondences every where we can. I doubt not, Sir, but you will prevail with all your ingenious friends, both in *England* and *Ireland*, to contribute to this work what is in their power.

MR.

MR. *Hook* has alſo ready (having ſhewed it me and others) a method for writing a natural hiſtory, which, I think, cuts out work enough for all naturaliſts in the world; and intends, as I hear, to print it ere long: for the mentioning of which, I deſire I may not be named. Mean while, I wiſh moſt heartily both yours and his were public, conſidering the great good it would do to philoſophy, moſt men not knowing what to enquire after, and how.

Now the *French* king hath declared war againſt *England* (which he did, it ſeems, very briſkly, when he ſent word to the queen-mother of *England*, that he muſt do it within two days) we ſhall, I fear, meet with ſome interruption of our philoſophical commerce, as we cannot but do with a total one of merchant-trade. I have ſince preſſed an *Engliſh* gentleman, that intends to come over with our embaſſador (who is now arreſted by the gout) to bring over ſuch curious books, as I have been by ſeveral letters informed, are to be found at *Paris*, as *Redi de vipera*, *Mariana de la Chine*, *Des Cartes de homine* in *French*, *Petit des Cometes*, &c.

THE proclamation of the war, I find, was very ſolemnly made at *Paris* by heralds; and they ſay the ſame proclamators are to be ſent hither, to give us fair warning. We think here this will unite *England* as one man. I am ſure the duke of *Albemarle* bends all his thoughts and power to put things into ſuch a poſture, as the importance of this affair requires, making ſure of proviſions, ammunitions, and payments, for a whole year, and of captains that know their work, and have courage to perform. Our merchants ſeem now reſolved, as they muſt be, to ſuſpend all traffic, and to obſerve, *hoc age*; which, if well and ſucceſsfully done, will amply compenſate that intermiſſion.

SINCE I wrote this, I had a viſit from Dr. *Poleman*, who tells me, that he has received *Comenius*'s new edition of the *Drabician* Prophecies, maintained by the publiſher as truly divine: whereupon, when I ſhewed him Mr. *Spencer*'s Animadverſions, I had for anſwer, that all-that, and much more, was anſwered in this edition; of which there is no more than one or two in *England* as yet. When I ſhall have ſeen any of them, you are like to hear of ſome particulars thereof from,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London*, *Feb.* 24, 1665-6.

I WAS very glad to ſee yours of *Feb.* 19, (which came but yeſternight to my hands) and there to find your being freed from the late indiſpoſition, as alſo your thoughts of coming nearer to us. Such perſons as you, Sir, we highly need, to aſſert and promote the deſign and intereſt of the Society, and to ſuggeſt the proper ways of carrying on their work. There are ſo few of ſuch, that unleſs either they redouble their zeal, or their number increaſe, that noble inſtitution will come far ſhort of its end. We are now undertaking ſeveral good things, as the collecting a repoſitory, the ſetting up a chemical laboratory, a mechanical operatory, an aſtronomical obſervatory, and an optic chamber; but the paucity of the undertakers is ſuch, that it muſt needs ſtick, unleſs more come in, and put their ſhoulders to the work. We know, Sir, you can and will do much to advance theſe attempts; and we hope the heavens are reconciled to us, to free us from infection, and to return you to *London*. Our preſident is to ſummon us to aſſemble again on the 14th of *March* next, if in the mean time he ſee no cauſe to the contrary. The arrears of the Society amount to above 600 *l.* How to get them paid is the queſtion. Mr. *Colwall* has lately preſented

us

us with another 50 *l.* therewith, and with the former 50 *l.* of his liberality, to purchaſe a very handſome collection of natural things for our repoſitory, which may be ſome part of an eſtabliſhment. My lord *Brounker* will now by all means be releaſed of his preſidentſhip, and he is ſo peremptory in his reſolution, that it will be very hard to engage his lordſhip for another year. I know, Sir, they have an eye upon you for his ſucceſſor, thinking it very important to chooſe perſons into that chair, in whom birth and ability are in conjunction: and I would fain perſuade myſelf, you will neither injure them nor yourſelf ſo much, as to decline that honour, eſpecially ſince it will not oblige you to ſuch an aſſiduity as is indiſpenſible, proviſion being ready to ſupply your place upon occaſion.

I HOPE Mr. *Williamſon* and I have ſo ordered the matter in the point of correſpondency, that there will be no exception taken of it. I could have as eaſily engaged Mr. *Godolphin* for the ſame purpoſe, but that he is gone to *Spain* with the earl of *Sandwich*, for which kingdom they both have received as well philoſophical as political inſtructions.

I RECEIVED the ſequel of the Hydroſtatical Paradoxes but on *Thurſday* laſt (*Feb.* 22.) If the ſheets had come to me, as they were printed off at *Oxford*, the verſion would have been near ready by this time. However, if the printer will, he may preſently begin the *Latin*, of which more than half is done; and I promiſe him, that God vouchſafing me health, he will be furniſhed weekly with matter ſufficient for two printed ſheets; only let him give me directions by whom to ſend conſtantly. I long to ſee alſo the Origin of Forms, and hope an examplar of it will come along with the other promiſed favour of the Hydroſtatics. Whatever enquiries you can ſpare, whether about inſects or other parts of natural hiſtory, all will be exceeding welcome; and the ſame I ſay of the obſervations about the baroſcope, intending carefully to obey your orders that reſpect Mr. *Hook*.

I NOW expect daily more than one friend from *Paris*, bringing along ſeveral treatiſes I have looked for this twelvemonth. Monſieur *Auzout* and others offer to continue their philoſophical commerce, though that of ſtate and merchants be interrupted; and I hope I ſhall not be deficient in entertaining it. The ſaid *Auzout* let me lately know of two perſons of quality and good eſtates, that have ſet with others upon optic glaſſes; one is Signior *Burattini*, grand maſter of the Mint of *Poland*, rich, curious, and a good mechanician: the other monſieur *de la Son* (not *de Son*) a *French* gentleman, who has promiſed to be ſhortly at *Paris*, and there to produce glaſſes of his faſhion. *Burattini* is ſaid to have already made good ones of 60 feet, and with them to have ſeen in *Venus* ſome inequalities, as we ſee in the moon: beſides, to be now at work about one of 120 feet, and to have hopes to advance to 200 feet and above. He pretends alſo to make looking-glaſſes two or three times greater than thoſe of *Venice*, that is to ſay, of eight or nine feet: and he affirms to have a method perfectly to poliſh his optic glaſſes in his forms, without the interpoſition of any linen or woollen cloth, or paper, *&c.* and to give them an admirable poliſh. The other, M. *de la Son*, affirms to have found a turn, whereby he can give what figure he pleaſes to glaſſes, and ſeems to excel *Campani* at *Rome*. We ſhall ſee in time what truth there is in theſe matters; and I look every day for ſomething alſo of this nature from M. *Huygens*, and I hope too we ſhall not be behind in *England*.

I INTEND within a few days, to write to *Hevelius*, and to engage him to give or procure us an account of the way of making pot-aſhes, and of the ſal gemmæ mines in *Poland*. If any thing elſe come in your mind worthy to be enquired after in *Boruſſia*, *Poland*, *Liefland*, I pray ſend it me, and I ſhall diligently recommend it. Some enquiries about amber would not be amiſs for thoſe parts.

I MUST haſten to annex the civil news that lately came to my hands. *Sweden* gives out, that in caſe the *Lunenburgh* forces fall into the country of *Munſter*, they will join with the biſhop. It is conceived, (and very rationally I think) that there cannot now be that confidence between *France* and *Sweden*, which has been formerly, and that upon the account of *Poland*, where *Sweden* will be very loth, that a king of the *French* nation, now ſo powerful, ſhould take root. The mareſchal of *Turenne* is preſſed upon the States for general, which is a point of a far reach, if it be complied with. The *French* king will then need no towns of ſecurity from them.

EIGHT *Dutch* men of war have joined with the duke of *Beaufort* at *Toulon*. We ſay, that if Sir *Jeremy Smith*, who is ſafe with his ſhips, can be but enforced with half a ſcore frigates more, he will never decline any encounter with all the ſtrength that is like to be made in the *Streights*. The *Scots* will all come away from *France*, notwithſtanding all the fair offers made to ſtay them. I can add no more, than,

SIR,

your very humble faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, March* 6, 1665-6.

I HAVE received the two hydroſtatical books, but ſhall have no opportunity to deliver that which is intended for the Society, till to-morrow come ſevennight, when we hope to meet again in a body. Our preſident returns his humble thanks and ſervice for the exemplar preſented to him. Dr. *Wren* is returned, and very kindly enquired after you. He is very well ſatisfied with the civilities he has received in *France*, and commends particularly Mr. *Auzout*; and ſo, I think, will every ingenious and learned man. In the packet he brought over with him for me, I do not find all I expected; which makes me think my lord *Anneſley* will bring the reſt. There is nothing elſe but monſieur *Redi delle Vipere*, in *Italian*, and ſhort; and monſieur *Petit Of the two Comets*, in *French*, pretty large, and all their *Journaux des Sçavans*, from the beginning of *January* laſt, till now; in moſt of which I find what is philoſophical to be taken out of our Tranſactions; the reſt being generally extracts and abbreviations of theological, hiſtorical, political, and ſuch like books. Monſieur *Petit*, in the annexed letter to me, preſents you his humble ſervice, and enquires particularly after your health and preſent occupation.

DR. *Wallis* promiſed the other day to give me what he knows of the earthquake time enough for the next Tranſactions, which will not be printed till the middle of this month, the next precedent having been printed ſomewhat later in the former month than uſually. If the addition you are pleaſed to mention of your own, might be here by *Saturday* next, it would enrich thoſe papers; and ſo would the obſervations about the baroſcope, you alſo are pleaſed to give me hopes of by the next. My letter to monſieur *Hevelius* is to be ſent away, God willing, next week; and thoſe queries about amber would, doubtleſs, obtain from him, or his acquaintance, a ſatisfactory anſwer. And what other enquiries about natural things you have ready, and ſhall think fit to communicate to me for foreign parts, I ſhall take more than ordinary care to recommend. Monſieur *Hevelius* enquires particularly after the Hiſtory of the Society, and the *Latin* verſions of your late books. The former is in lazy hands; the latter are fallen into troubleſome times, when ſtationers complain of the great rate of paper, and of the difficulty of getting books diſperſed abroad when printed.

MR.

MR. *Crook* hath very much desired, that he might not now be pressed to print off the *Latin* of your *History of Cold*, hoping, that within five or six weeks he shall get paper at an easier rate than now he can procure. What to say to this I know not.

THE last letters from *Holland* mention, that now Christians, as well as Jews, write from *Constantinople* the confirmation of the reports concerning the motion of the *Israelites*, and the great hopes the Jews entertain of recovering their land very shortly. I shall refer you to these extract of letters, as I receive them from *Amsterdam*.

Copie d'une lettre de Constantinople, escrite de monsieur Chaumont, ambassadeur, à son frere, resident à Venice, le 18 *Dec.* 1665.

Il y a icy de grandes nouvelles touchant le roy des Juifs; on l'attend icy en bref: & on dit, que le Grand Seigneur se contentera de luy ceder la couronne de la Palestine. Et la plus part d'entre les Juifs ne font plus de negoce, mais s'appresteut pour s'on allez à Jerusalem. Au commencement monsieur le Gendre & moy nous nous mocquions d'eux, faisans peu de conte de cecy; mais à cette heure, par les apparences qu'il y a, nous craignons que ce ne soit tout de bon.

Copie de la lettre d'un consul François de Smyrne, escrite à une Christien, seigneur Joseph Rosano.

Il y a icy de nouvelles considerables avec l'arrivée en cette ville d'un roy des Juifs, qui est une personne de grande consideration & de grande sapience, de qui les Turcs mesmes sont grand estat. Nostre nation demeure avec quelque pour. Dieu veuille, qu'il ne nous cause quelque dommage.

De Paris, le 19 *Fevr.* 1666.

Les bruits continuent icy journellement touchant les Juifs, & qu'ils s'assemblent sous un certain personage, qui ne se dit pas estre le Messiah, mais qu'il est divinement suscité & envoyé pour rassembler la nation Judaique de tous les bouts de la terre, à fin qu'ils apprennent à connoistre le Messiah venu, que jusques à present leur a esté inconnu. L'on dit, qu'on remarque de la divinité en luy.

I SAW a letter from *Marseilles*, that informs us that the *French* fleet intended to be out by the beginning of this month, consisting of but thirty-two men of war, the *Dutch* comprised, besides six fireships.

SIR *Jeremy Smith* is seventeen men of war, two fireships, and a ketch.

I HAVE no more to add, than that I am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, March* 13, 1665-6.

A DOUBLE present obliges to double acknowledgments, which I humbly desire your acceptance of, for the barometrical observations and advertisements, as well as for the relation concerning the earthquake and the concomitants thereof; which will enrich my next Transactions, God willing; my papers for this month having been sent away to the press on *Saturday* last, as soon as they were compleated for two sheets; it being high time to have them dispatched, lest the printing of them should fall out too late this month. I find observers, and amongst them my lord *Brounker*, concur in the taking notice, that in long dry weather the mercury keeps very high; and

when I mentioned some other particulars contained in your letters to his lordship, he presently intimated, it would do very well to publish next time your communications, before I had taken notice to him, that for that very purpose I had procured that favour from you. I am now about inviting Monsieur *Auzout*, Mr. *Hevelius*, and others, to join with us in making such observations, and sending them some directions and cautions for the better performance thereof; such as are the careful exclusions of all air, the employing of pretty large tubes, and leaving a good space above the mercury, or providing a cane with a bolthead, that in case there should be left any air, its spring may be so weakened by expansion, as not to be able to produce any considerable effect: where, if you have any other advertisements to give, besides those you have been pleased to express in your former, such as the noting the hours of the day, the weather and winds, the situation of the place where the barometers stand, they will be very acceptable to all. There occurs a paragraph in yours of *March* 7, which the transcriber has misrepresented, insomuch that I cannot reach your sense in it: for after you had related the difference you find betwixt your barometers at *Oxford* and *Staunton*, you annex a certain instruction, which the amanuensis sets down in these words:

"WHICH observations may teach us, that the subterraneous steams which ascend "into the air, or the *other* (this word *other* sure is mistaken for *æther*) and of the va- "rying weight of the atmosphere, do many times, and at some places, uniformly "enough, affect the air, to a greater height in the air, than, till I had this trial, I "durst conclude."

So far your note: which I am sure is punctually transcribed as I found it; but has certainly a mistake (besides that obvious one in the word *other*) which I cannot remove, and seems to lie in the words, *and of the varying weight of the atmosphere*. You will pardon me this trouble, and favour me with rectifying the error. And since it falls out so, that your relation of the earthquake cannot be printed till next month, I shall beg the timely communication of that further account you give me hopes of in your last, if we see you not here before that time.

I SHALL stay one week longer, before I send away my letter and enquiries to Mr. *Hevelius*, hoping you will suggest some others proper for those parts. Mine do concern the optic glasses of *Burattini*, the history of pot-ashes, an account of amber, sal gem, frozen and revived swallows, freezing of animals to death, concentring of colours, and altering the electrical faculty of amber, and the properties of the magnet, by cold; and such like, as you intimate a desire to have enquiries made after, in your history of that quality.

I DO intend also to recommend some queries to Sir *Gervase Lucas*, who next week is to embark for the *East-Indies*, to be governor of *Bombaia*, and has offered his service for philosophical purposes; which he will, I am persuaded, perform the more effectually, if he may receive some instructions from you.

I AM ready to furnish the printer weekly with two or three sheets of the *Latin* translate of your Hydrostatics, if it be ready for dispatch. And if I might be allowed an exemplar of the Origin of Forms, I would endeavour to give some account of it in the next Transactions, as I have done of the former book in those that are now printing.

ONE of the *French* journals takes notice of a letter, lately written from *Amsterdam*, of a proposition made there of a way of preserving ships from being worm-eaten; conjectured to be performed by the means of a certain bitter and penetrating lixivium, resembling that bitterness, which is related to be found in a kind of wild *Indian* pear-tree, not at all subject to be damnified by any worms. Methinks this should excite the

the curious and knowing men in *England* to deviſe ſuch a preſervative of timber, as is eaſy to be made, and of ſmall charges, without which it would be of no avail. I have ſeen a preſcription of Sir *Thomas Mayerne*'s, conſiſting of ſulphur and aqua fortis; which, upon this occaſion, I ſhall look after; and if I find it preſent it to you, if you have not ſeen it already.

IN another of theſe journals an account is given of the uſe of chocolate, together with the deciſion of a pleaſant caſe of conſcience, *viz.* whether a draught of that ſubſtance breaks a faſt enjoined by the church? Which having been ventilated pro and con, is at length determined by a cardinal in the negative. Surely *Hudibras* would jeer ſomebody out of *England*, if he ſhould find ſuch caſes and deciſions in his monthly book.

GREATRIX does certainly ſome cures by his frictions, inſinuating (perhaps) ſome ſalubrious ſteams or ſpirits of his own into ſickly people's bodies. Monſieur de *Son* hath been ſtroked by him, and he tells me, that whereas he hath been for ſeveral years troubled with great back-aches (which indeed have been ſometimes ſuch, in my preſence, that he could not ſtir or turn himſelf without great pain, which ſometimes forced him to cry out) he now finds himſelf upon being ſtroked very well, inſomuch that he purpoſes, in caſe of continuance, to go to ſea with prince *Rupert*, in whoſe lodgings this cure was performed; his highneſs, as the patient told me, having urged him to ſuffer that friction.

WE have not any conſiderable news from abroad that I hear of. Sir *Chriſtopher Mings* is in the *Elve*, to prevent the deſign of *Daniſh* ſhips from obſtructing the return of our merchantmen from thence. The Jews ſeem to promote their enterprize with vigour in *Arabia* and *Paleſtina*; two or three dozen prophets, that are ſaid to be amongſt them, doing good ſervice to the pretended king, who is ſaid not to aſſume the dignity and office of the Meſſiah, but to lead to him.

I HOPE you will now haſten to viſit *London* again, eſpecially ſince I hear ſo good a conveniency is found out for you at *Newington*; whereof you will hear more from another hand, I ſuppoſe, this very poſt. The election of a new preſident muſt be left to the genius of the body that is to chooſe, whoſe members are to employ themſelves for its ſervice, every one according to their ſeveral abilites, whereof I do not queſtion but impartial judgment will be made by competent judges: which is all I had to ſay at this time, as,

SIR,

your very faithful and humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, March* 17, 1665-6.

I MUST begin this letter with giving you the thanks of our ſociety for your late reſpect of preſenting them with one of your laſt books; of which the preſident, as having it peruſed before, gave that character to the company it deſerves; ſeveral of them were inquiſitive after the other, concerning the Origin of Forms; to whom I gave anſwer, that I thought they would ſee that alſo, ere long, in *London*.

I DID preſume to give ſome account of the hydroſtatical book in the Tranſactions of this month, come out but *Thurſday* laſt, chiefly *ad movendam ſalivam exteris*; to ſome of whom at *Paris* and in *Holland*, the ſaid Tranſactions will be ſent by poſt. What was inſerted in number 9, about the ways of ſounding depths and fetching up of water, I am apt to think, that if the words employed by me be examined, they will not be found to import a new invention, but only a new contrivance of a way already ſtarted

ſtarted; ſince it is there ſaid, that "the following ways were contrived by *M. H.*" which cannot well be otherwiſe interpreted, than that the ways as they follow were contrived by him; not that he firſt invented the notion of this practice: and he aſſures me, that that way of ſounding with a round leaden or ſtone ball, he borrowed from no author; which makes me conclude I ſpoke truly and candidly, when I ſaid that that way, as it is deſcribed there, was contrived by him. I am ſure I was, in my thoughts, as far from derogating any thing from another, as any perſon alive whatſoever can be; and I am perſuaded it will appear by all the Tranſactions, that I have been all along ſcrupulouſly careful, not only to give every one his own, but alſo to vindicate that to the owner, which others have appeared to rob him of. But if this ſhould not be thought ſatisfactory, I would beg, Sir, that the farther remonſtrating of it may be deferred till our perſonal meeting; an amanuenſis being, in my opinion, leſs proper to receive into his pen a matter, wherein a man's candour is, or but ſeems to be, called in queſtion. I doubt not but you have received a full account of the lodging-place deſigned for you at *Newington*. Mr. *Coxe* ſoliciting me to give him a viſit there, I walked thither on *Thurſday* laſt; and though I was not within the houſe that is to be taken up for you, yet I looked upon the places about it, and muſt needs ſay that it ſeems to me very convenient for you; there being a large orchard, a walk for ſolitary meditation, a dry ground round about, and, in all appearance, a good air; all which Mr. *Coxe* affirms to be accompanied with a civil landlord and fair landlady.

AT our meeting on *Wedneſday* laſt at *Greſham*, the preſident took ſome account of what ſeveral of the members then preſent had been employed in, during the late ſad and long receſs. Some related what had been done by them in the matter of chariots and watches; others, what in maſonry, and the extraction of lead out of the ore; others, what in the hiſtory of the nature of ſalts; others, what in the perfecting of the experiments touching the injection into veins, and particularly about the tranſfuſing of blood out of one animal into another; concerning the laſt whereof Dr. *Clerk* affirmed, that he had tried that experiment two years ago, but found it ſo difficult that he gave it over: whereupon Sir *R. Moray* mentioned, that Mr. *Boyle* had hopes of maſtering the difficulties that are met with in that experiment. Dr. *Wallis* being preſent, and deſired to acquaint the company what had been chiefly done at the meeting in *Oxford* laſt ſummer, related ſome of the muſical experiments that had been made; and being ſolicited to give them in writing, he made anſwer, that Mr. *Boyle* had recorded them. Whereupon the ſecretary was ordered to take notice of it in writing, that Mr. *Boyle* be deſired to impart the ſaid experiments, with all their circumſtances.

DR. *Beale* in his late letter preſents his moſt humble ſervice to you; and having delivered ſeveral hints and obſervations, he adds, that you uſe not to deſpiſe any of that kind; which makes me conclude, that he would have them communicated to you.

THEY are theſe:

"1. IF ſuch ſcales ſhould be deviſed, as Mr. *Boyle* acknowledges himſelf to uſe, and with this addition, that one ſcale be fitted to gather all the weight of air that may be, the other ſide to decline and avoid the preſſure of air, by this the difference of weight at one, two, or three inches in the mercurial cane may be taken. And it is probable, that the ſhowers expected in the ſpring at hand, will in a few days or weeks bring down the mercury for this calculation. And (as I ſaid formerly, and do now preſs) hence by calculations we may advance, upon Mr. *Boyle*'s principles, to compare the air of the whole atmoſphere (at the ſeveral great ſtages) with the weight of mercury or water which it depreſſes, *&c.*

2. AND

2. AND hence may alſo be calculated, what a cylinder of air, which takes up ſo many inches, feet or yards breadth, does amount unto; and may caſt up what the weight of air is in a cloſet, or gallery, according to the dimenſion of the room, and the ſtation of the mercury.

3. AND this may be referred to the ſtatic rules of ſanity. And certainly, I have noted, that ſome men do require a far larger ſtore of air for their ſuſtenance, than others. Mr. *Mede*, the famous divine, a great ſtudent, and of a ſtomach ſomewhat greater than is uſual in ſtudents, could not take his ſleep nor reſt, except all the curtains and chamber windows were wide open. And this plenty of air he repaid with ſuch a ſteam conſtantly expiring out of his body, as ſtained all his clothes, and that as ſoon as he could renew them. His body always bound. And I knew a vivacious perſon, of great underſtanding, who could not ſleep except the curtains and lodgings were open. He died lately, 102 years old. I took notice, that in that great age, or near it, he could not endure to ſleep with any cap (though but of linen) on his head. He had no baldneſs, but bred much hair.

4. CERTAINLY my friendlieſt medicines are thoſe, which procure or aſſiſt tranſpirations; and thoſe require more freſhneſs and frankneſs of air. May not that be one cauſe of the benefit of perambulations, in oppilating diſtempers, that, beſides the motion, the air may be freſh?

5. MAY not a ruſh candle, or watch candle, be deviſed of ſuch tender flame, as may diſtinguiſh ponderous air from lighter? If by any device we could put a poſitive eſtimate upon the weight of the air in any dimenſion, I mean from the whole atmoſphere, it would much ſurpriſe and amuſe our common philoſophers, who do ſeldom conſider that we are encompaſſed with ſuch a weight of air."

So far he: And I can go no farther, than to add that I am,

SIR,

your faithful and humble ſervant.

SIR, ſome of your thoughts upon Dr. *Beale*'s paragraphs would be very acceptable to us both.

SIR, *March* 24, 1666.

BOTH your favours, the written and the printed, I have received, and do now return you my humble and hearty thanks for them: the like will be heaped on you by the public, when they ſhall ſee your barometrical obſervations and directions, together with the two treatiſes of hydroſtatics and mechanical forms and qualities, both ſurpriſing and moſt uſeful books. In the former you have fully eſtabliſhed and cleared that ſubject: in the latter, you have driven out that devil of ſubſtantial forms, that, as it has hitherto done all the feats the ſchools have been entertained with, ſo it has ſtopt the progreſs of true philoſophy, and made the beſt of ſcholars not more knowing, as to the nature of particular bodies, than the meaneſt ploughman. Since I gave notice of them in the Tranſactions, that they were coming abroad, I have been ſolicited from foreign parts to haſten the *Latin* verſion of them: to comply with which, I have done my part as to the former, being ready to ſend for the preſs half a dozen ſheets a week (the reaſon why I offer not the whole at once, being that I would have ſome time to review) but I find no anſwer to what I ſaid in my former letters about it: as to M. *Davies* readineſs to print, if you ſhall give me order to undertake the other, *Of Forms*, &c. I am ready for that too, and ſhall diſpatch it, God vouchſafing me health, with all poſſible expedition. But I would advertiſe that the title pages might be forthwith printed, and immediately after ſent abroad, as *John Crook*

Crook has done with that of the Hiſtory of Cold, to which he has alſo received an anſwer from his correſponding bookſellers in *Holland*, that they will take off the whole *Latin* impreſſion. And this is the only way I know to prevent foreign tranſlations; which if *Herringman* had taken, the *Latin Colours* would not have lain upon his hands.

IN the peruſing of the Hydroſtatics, I met with one place that certainly wants ſomething to make up the ſenſe; *vid.* pag. 188. in the paragraph that begins with, But let us ſuppoſe, *&c.* The defect poſed Dr. *Wallis* when he was here, as well as myſelf, and needs a timely ſupplement, both before more of the *Engliſh* copies be diſperſed, and before I ſend away the *Latin* to be printed. There are one or two errata more, but very obvious to mend by any reader, as pag. 189. line 13. ſurfaces for ſurface; and pag. 76. line antepenult. water in ſpecie, for water is in ſpecie.

IN the reading of the *Origin of Forms*, (which my curioſity haſtened me to do yeſterday as ſoon as I had received that preſent) I met with the following faults: in the laſt page of the publiſher to the reader, there is line penult. a correction, that needs another, *vid. till* pag. 169. for pag. 269. Again, pag. 64. lin. 6. *thoſe*, ſeems to be put for *though*, to anſwer the *yet*, in the next line: and pag. 325. lin. 4. I gueſs that *two inflammable*, is put for *two uninflammable*. There ſeems to be a defect alſo in pag. 369. in the latter part, beginning lin. 19. to the 2d line of pag. 370. Pag. 396. I think *ſpand* is put for *ſand:* and pag. 397. lin. 13. *it all*, for *it at all:* and in the ſame page, line 6. *& ſeq.* I do not find that the words, *not only*, have that particle that anſwers them. The chief of theſe may eaſily be mended by the pen, before diſtribution.

IT ſeems that at *Florence* they have been laſt winter engaged, among other experiments, to make trials of congelation; a correſpondent of mine writing me word, that they had expoſed four veſſels, filled with common water, to the four points of the world, and found that to the eaſt freeze firſt, that to the weſt next, and then that to the ſouth, and laſt of all that to the north, though this laſt was frozen hardeſt of all; which I underſtand not, the particular ſituation of the place not being deſcribed, nor what fence there might be more to one part of the houſe than the other, againſt the power of the froſt. They have made, it ſeems, many others, in all ſorts of veſſels, open and cloſe, and with all ſorts of metals and glaſſes, whereof I am promiſed *le detail* hereafter.

ANOTHER friend from beyond ſeas takes notice of an obſervation made about glow-worms, that they have a red humour in them, very fine and pleaſant to look upon. If I miſtake not, I have heard curious men affirm, that their ſhining quality is gone when they are dead.

MY *Pariſian* acquaintance endeavours the promoting of the Natural Hiſtory, telling me, upon my former ſolicitations of it, this; *Je parle par tout de beau deſſein, que vous* (meaning the Society) *avez de faire une hiſtoire naturelle, à fin de donner de l'emulation à nos meſſieurs, & les exciter à vous imiter.* I know they will be much pleaſed and ſet on, by thoſe comprehenſive general queries you give me leave to enrich the next Tranſactions with; and they will be much more, if they ſhall ſee thoſe particular ones (ſubordinated to ſome of the general points) which you ſo generouſly offer, and I moſt ardently deſire the communication of. Sir, you will ſee, I doubt not, great effects of theſe ſolicitations and directions, induſtry and guidance being much more wanting in this age, than abilities.

LET princes and ſtates make war, and ſhed blood; let us cultivate virtue and philoſophy, and ſtudy to do good to mankind. *Non ſileant amplius leges nec muſæ inter arma; ſed vocales ſint quàm maximè in maximo ſtrepitu bellorum.*

I AM

I AM particularly obliged to you, for your favourable concern for me in my *Latin* tranſlations. If ever they be done and printed, I ſhall moſt greedily embrace your kindneſs. I wonder ſomewhat at Mr. *Davies*, that he ſhould make ſuch a noiſe among our ſtationers, even by letters, concerning the Tranſactions, and the ſcarcity of their vent. Methinks, he does what he can to decry them, and has already effected ſo much, that, if they go on to be printed, I ſhall be the worſe for it by forty ſhillings a month, which is a great loſs to one, that has no other way of ſubſiſtence for ſerving the Society. And I wonder the more at him, becauſe I have not at all preſſed him to pay the reſt of what he was contracted for with, contenting myſelf (by reaſon of the troubleſome time it was when he printed) with the nine pounds; whereas thoſe three tracts would have amounted to twenty pounds ten ſhillings. In the interim, I had a letter lately from Dr. *Beale*, who beſpeaks ſeveral copies of all the numbers hitherto printed, for ſeveral of his acquaintance in the country; and methinks it is probable, that thoſe that had any of them ſhould in time look for all the reſt; and I am ſure I cannot get myſelf not ſo much as one copy of Numb. I. no where, having given away all thoſe I had of it, and the ſtationer alledging he can find none of them in his warehouſe, but only ſome few ſheets of a part of it. I am apt to believe, that if Mr. *Davies* ſends thoſe copies he has left, they may in a little time be diſperſed, if the town remain in health; and then ſure his clamorous complaints may be ſatisfied. What was hoped might have brought me in 150*l. per annum*, *Engliſh* and *Latin* together, will now ſcarce amount to 50, as the matter is like to be ordered, eſpecially ſince the ſtationers, by reaſon of the war, refuſe to print the *Latin*. But I am aſhamed, Sir, to trouble you with this ſtuff; that which moſt urges me to it, is the conſideration I have, that, by the fall of this aſſiſtance, I may be diſabled to ſerve the Society.

On *Wedneſday* laſt, at our meeting at *Greſham*, there was no common entertainment, about the vermination of the air, as a probable cauſe of the plague; about the rain of aſhes, that fell ſome years ago in the *Archipelago*, far off at ſea, and covered the ſhip-decks one foot deep, *&c.* ſome of thoſe aſhes being produced by M. *Evelyn*, who alſo preſented us with above forty kinds of very pretty moſſes, gathered in one wood in *Surrey*; about the retrieving of the old way to prepare and temper tools for the cutting of porphyry; about ſome experiments of gravity, made in a deep well by M. *Hook*, who produced the ſcheme of an inſtrument for finding the difference of the weight (if any) between a body placed on the ſurface of the earth, or at a conſiderable diſtance from it, either upwards or downwards; by the advantage of which, many experiments of gravity and magnetiſm are like to be made before the Society. Mr. *Colwall* was publicly thanked for his new generous preſent of the collection of natural things, and a committee was appointed for the reducing it it into good order, and for the preſerving and encreaſing it.

BUT it is high time I ſhould eaſe you, and ſubſcribe myſelf, what I am really,

SIR,

your very humble

and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London*, *March* 27, 1666.

YOU will find by and by, that the incloſed hath occaſioned my preſent importunity. Dr. *Beale* thinks, that in ſome of his late letters to me are contained particulars not unfit to be prepared for your nice ſcales, whilſt you are employed in the

ſtatics, about the quantity and weight of air that is required for the health of human bodies. Sir, I cannot doubt but you have conſidered that matter to the bottom ere this, and therefore ſhould be unwilling to offer any thing to you about it, but only to ſatisfy the deſires of our common friend, who conceives that the ſcales mentioned by you in Hiſtory of Cold, pag. 19. are eaſily applicable to the purpoſe, he urges, by a fit receiver of a preſſure of air in one ſcale, *&c.* the broader the better: or, as he hath it more fully in another letter, if ſuch ſcales ſhould be deviſed as you make uſe of, with this addition, that one ſcale be fitted to gather all the weight of air that may be; and the other ſide to incline and avoid the preſſure of air; that by this the difference of weight, at one, two or three inches, may be taken. To which he adds, that it is probable that the expected ſpring-ſhowers will, in a few days or weeks, bring down the mercury for this calculation. And hence alſo, ſaith he, there may be calculated what a cylinder of air, which takes up ſo many inches, feet, or yards breadth, does amount unto; and one may caſt up what the weight of air is in a cloſet or gallery, according to the dimenſions of the room, and the ſtation of the mercury. Which he would have referred to the ſtatic rules of health; he having noted, that ſome men do require a far larger ſtore of air for their ſuſtenance than others. He propoſes a ſcale for this purpoſe of extraordinary breadth, of ſome very light matter, thin whalebone, or yet lighter, to account the proportions of inequality of weight, from 27 to 30 inches.

I WISH Dr. *Beale* had digeſted his own ſenſe for you, and not commiſſionated me to cull it out of his letters here and there. However I would not omit acquainting you with his propoſal, knowing you will take all in good part, both from him, and,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, June* 8, 1666.

IF we had not expected you here every day ſince the firſt week after your departure, you would have been ere this waited upon by my ſcribbles. As we have had at *Greſham* an experiment, explicating the inflexion of a direct motion into a curve, by a ſupervening attractive principle, ſo I may preſume to gueſs, that your intentions of returning to *London* within a fortnight, were diverted by the powerful magnetiſm that reigns at *Lees*. Thoſe load-ſtones being like to maintain their vigour, I doubt you will hardly keep your reſolution of coming to us next week, as your ſervant gave us hopes of. Mean while I ſhall mention to you ſomewhat more particularly what the experiment was I juſt now alluded to, ſhewing that circular motion is compounded of an endeavour by a direct motion by the tangent, and of another endeavour tending to the centre. I ſay then, that for that purpoſe there was a pendulum faſtened to the roof of the room where we met, with a large wooden ball of lignum vitæ on the end of it: and it was found, that if the impetus of the endeavour by the tangent, at the firſt ſetting out, was ſtronger than the endeavour to the centre, there was then generated an elliptical motion, whoſe longeſt diameter was parallel to the direct endeavour of the body in the firſt point of impulſe; but if that impetus was weaker than the endeavour to the centre, there was generated ſuch an ellipſis, whoſe ſhorter diameter was parallel to the direct endeavour of the body in the firſt point of impulſe: and if they were both equal, there was made a perfect circular motion.

AFTER this there was made this other experiment. Another ſmaller pendulous body was faſtened by a ſhorter ſtring, on the lower part of the wire, which the greater ball

ball was ſuſpended by, that it might freely make a circular or elliptical motion round about the bigger, whilſt the bigger moved circularly or elliptically about another centre. The intention whereof was, to explicate (in favour of Dr. *Wallis*'s hypotheſis about the flux and reflux of the ſea, which has been pretty well ſifted among us) the manner of the moon's motion about the earth, it evidently appearing thereby, that neither the bigger ball, which repreſented the earth, nor the leſs, which repreſented the moon, were moved in ſo perfect a circle or ellipſis, as otherwiſe they would have moved, if either of them had been ſuſpended and moved ſingly; but that a certain point, which ſeemed to be the centre of gravity of thoſe two bodies, however poſited (conſidered as one) ſeemed to be regularly moved in ſuch a circle or ellipſis; the two balls having other peculiar motions in ſmall epicycles about the ſaid point.

THIS latter experiment I imparted to Dr. *Wallis*, who is, as I found by his anſwer, very well pleaſed with it; and hopes withal, that that theory of his will anſwer all the main phænomena of the tides; though he pretends not to give thereby a ſatisfactory account of the particular varieties of them in ſeveral places of the world, for want of a full hiſtory of the ſame.

SIR, *Th. de Vaux*, at the ſame meeting, preſented the company with a bundle of conſiderable papers touching coloration, drawn up by a very famous and curious phyſician, from the mouth of the moſt knowing and experienced dyers of *England* and *Holland* in his time; the Society ordered thereupon a committee, to conſider of theſe papers, and to diſtribute them among themſelves to be *Engliſhed*, they being almoſt all in *French*, and then to digeſt them: which being done, I am perſuaded that many notable particulars will be there met with, to illuſtrate the philoſophy of dyeing, *&c.*

THERE was alſo, at the ſame time, brought in a diſcourſe by Sir *Gilbert Talbot*, of a rare ſtone, to be found in *Sweden*, yielding four different ſubſtances, *viz.* ſulphur, vitriol, alum, and minium: of which the preſenter was deſired to procure us a good quantity for trial, which he promiſed to do.

MONSIEUR *Auzout* was then elected into the Society, *nemine contradicente*; and a diploma is to be diſpatched to him, as was done to Mr. *Hevelius*. The ſame, I find by my laſt from *Paris*, is nominated for one of thoſe choice perſons that are to conſtitute their academy; ſome of the reſt that are pitched upon, being M. *Roberval*, M. *Carchavy*, M. *Frenicle*, M. *Picard*, M. *Huygens*, all very able men, appointed to meet and to conſider of the beſt way of framing a philoſophical Society, and the beſt method of carrying on its deſign. I perceive they will chiefly purſue mechanical and chemical experiments, they having already in their eye a couple of good chemiſts, and ſome able mechanics, that ſhall work by their directions. *On fera faire* (ſaith my author) *tout ce qu'il faudra pour travailler utilement. On a deſia commencé de s'aſſembler pour faire quelque reglemens. C'eſt un beau & grand deſſein, qui ne peut eſtra qu'utile & glorieux à la France.* He adds, *on pourroit faire auſſi quelque choſe en Denmark, parce qu'il s'y trouve des ſujets capables & tres intelligens.* Indeed they have ſome there that are very learned men, as *Eraſmus Bartholin* the mathematician, *Thom. Bartholin* the phyſician, and *Steno* the anatomiſt; the laſt of which has been, I find, much courted in *France*, and is now ſo in *Italy* at *Florence*. I hope our Society will in time ferment all *Europe* at leaſt: I wiſh only we had a little more zeal, and a great deal more aſſiſtance, to do our work thoroughly, as I am apt to believe the *French* will ſtudy to do theirs (they being like to be endowed) were it but out of emulation. So good be done to our generation, and a ground laid to do the like to poſterity, no great matter what paſſions do concur for the performance.

THE *Venetian* embaſſador *Juſtiniani*, now at *Paris*, hath ſent me, by the hands of my correſpondent there, a conſiderable printed paper, (for the Society) publiſhed in

Italy by Signior *Caſſini*, containing many notable obſervations made in *February*, *March* and *April* laſt, with ſome of *Campani*'s glaſſes, touching the converſion of *Mars* about his axis, performed (as he affirms to be aſſured of by very good obſervations) in the ſpace of twenty-four hours, forty minutes. You remember, Sir, that the ſame was obſerved here in *England* in the ſame months, witneſs one of our Tranſactions, Num. 11. which I am now very glad took timely notice of it in public.

DR. *Beale* preſents you his hearty ſervice: is very buſy upon ſome new ſubject; commends *Parker*'s Cenſure of the Platonic Philoſophy, and thinks that the ſame arms againſt *Glanvil*'s Pre-exiſtence of ſouls. Mr. *Glanvil* is, I find, of an excellent temper for argument; and I believe that he will rather yield and fly the field, than handle a weapon unhandſomely.

I PRESUME to ſwell this letter with this month's Tranſactions. If *Eſſex* breeds curioſity, thoſe papers may be made known there by your influence; and the chief place of the concourſe of the gentry there being intimated to the printers of them, they may monthly ſend them thither, as they do to many other parts of *England*.

I NEED not, I ſuppoſe, entertain you with the relation of the late rude and obſtinate fight, or the ſucceſs thereof. I ſhall only ſay this of it, that as the engagement will not eaſily be paralleled, ſo we ſhall find the ſucceſs, all things conſidered, a great deliverance, and a dear victory to us. Mean while, God be thanked, both our generals are well, having done prodigious things, and the king in a condition to ſet out very ſpeedily another fleet; which that it may be done ſo, as to prevent our enemies, is of the higheſt concernment in this buſineſs.

WE know not where the *French* fleet is: ſome ſay, turned back to *Cadiz*; others in their way to come about the north of *Scotland*, to join the *Dutch*, and to make them appear again preſently. My laſt letter from *Paris* hath only this; *Les Suedois pourront bien eſtre mediateurs & arbitres de la paix. La France obligera la Hollande de leur donner ſatisfaction, & de renoncer au traitté d'Elbing.*

BUT I am tired, it being paſt midnight; and I believe you have cauſe to be ſo much more at the rhapſody of,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 10, 1666.

I WAS very ſorry I was abſent, when, as I heard, you did me the favour of calling at my lodging before you went out of town. If I had known the leaſt word of your intention of retiring to *Oxford*, I ſhould have made a ſhift to have waited on you at *Chelſea* before. However, I am very glad you are ſo well as to travel: Almighty God keep and ſtrengthen you in it. I cannot omit acquainting you, that never a calamity, and ſuch an one, was ſo well borne as this is. It is incredible how little the ſufferers, though great ones, do complain of their loſſes. I was yeſterday in many meetings of the principal citizens, whoſe houſes are laid in aſhes, who inſtead of complaining, diſcourſed almoſt of nothing but of a ſurvey of *London*, and a deſign for rebuilding, and that in ſuch a manner (with bricks, and large ſtreets, leaving great intervals and partitions in ſeveral places) that for the future they may not be ſo eaſily ſubject to the like deſtruction. I hope that ſome of our Society will ſignalize themſelves in this ſurvey and deſign, which, when done to the ſatisfaction of the king, may by his majeſty be offered and recommended to the parliament. I was this very morning with our preſident, and ſuggeſted this buſineſs to his lordſhip, who

who liked it ſo well, that he intends to move it to-morrow at the council of the Society, which is ſummoned to meet at *Greſham* in ſome other room than formerly, our ordinary meeting places, both for the council and the Society, being, as I hear, taken up by the lord mayor and the court of aldermen, as is the quadrangle for the meeting of the merchants, *pro tempore*.

I DOUBT I ſhall find it very difficult to continue the printing of the Tranſactions, *Martyn* and *Alleſtry* being undone with the reſt of the ſtationers at *Paul*'s church-yard, and all their books burnt they had carried for ſafety into St. *Faith*'s church, as they call it; beſides, that the city lying deſolate now, it will be very hard to vend them at the preſent. I had hopes to have once waited on you to dinner to Sir *William Morrice*'s, there to have opened to him my deſires of thinking on me, in caſe the *Latin* ſecretary's place ſhould fall vacant, eſpecially now there is ſmaller hopes than ever of benefactors to the Society, and the Tranſactions like to be interrupted, but charges to increaſe; I having been neceſſitated within this ten days to pay twenty-four ſhillings to the public, for chimnies, taxes, and watching; which if it hold long, will force me to run away. Sir, if you would not think it a trouble to ſolicit, by a line or two of your own hand, my lord *Brounker* and Sir *R. Moray* to recommend me for the ſaid employment, you would exceedingly oblige me: for though I think they both have an affection for me, yet I am aſſured their care for me in this particular would be redoubled upon the recommendation. I leave all to your own diſcretion, who am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 18, 1666.

YOUR very obliging letter I received, and delivered the annexed to my lord *Brounker*, who preſents his affectionate ſervice to you, and deſires you will pleaſe to ſend the mentioned experiment to me, and reſt perſuaded he will do what is in his power for the perſon recommended. And I believe verily his lordſhip will not come ſhort of his word; and which is more, I am perſuaded, if he had known my condition ſooner, that is ſo very low, as indeed it is, whatever face I have put upon it, he would have ſooner taken care for me. For he was pleaſed to ſay as much to me, when upon this occaſion I related to him, that my dear wife had brought me 400 *l.* whereof, upon our agreement of marriage, ſhe called in 200, laying out 100 upon furniſhing our houſe, and the other 100 partly upon the fine for the houſe, partly for other neceſſary occaſions, as far as it would go. And before ſhe died, left me the other 200 *l.* then in the hands of Sir *Brocket Spencer* and Sir *John Cotton*, from whom I received them (being neceſſitated to call them in alſo) and ſpent them partly for her funeral and payment of debts, and partly upon my ſubſiſtence hitherto; that which the Tranſactions have yielded, being conſumed in my houſe-rent, and taxes, and duties, thoſe ſums not amounting alſo by far to what was at firſt imagined, and being now like to fall lower yet. Having been forced to repreſent this to his lordſhip, and added, that I had declined ſeveral offers of conducting young noblemen abroad, which would at leaſt have been worth to me 100 *l. per ann.* if not alſo ſome annuity *ad vitam*, after the employment ended; his lordſhip told me plainly, that if he had known ſo much betimes, I ſhould not have ſuffered ſo much, expreſſing particularly what advantageous employment in the navy (but now provided for) he could have conferred on me, which he believed I would have performed to more ſatisfaction

tisfaction than he that is now in it; but yet he would be mindful of me, and not ſuffer me to want. The ſtationers of *Paul*'s inſiſt to give them the Tranſactions for a while, till they can ſomewhat recover their loſs, which indeed is very great, all their books, carried by them into St. *Faith*'s church under *Paul*'s, being burnt, and amongſt them the hitherto printed Tranſactions. I tell them that I ſhould not want generoſity to do ſo, if I had ability to bear that retrenchment: mean while I have given them the Tranſactions of this month freely, if that will do them any kindneſs, or at leaſt be any encouragement to them to continue; which they ſay it will, and make them ſtretch as far as they can thereafter. In this confuſion and general unſettlement I know not where to faſten it, or to meet with any tolerable conditions for it: that made me venture the continuation with them, leaving the iſſue to providence; which, I hope, will, upon our deep humiliation before it, and a true remorſe of our impieties, raiſe this deſolated city into a far better condition than ever. Dr. *Wren* has, ſince my laſt, drawn a model for a new city, and preſented it to the king, who produced it himſelf before his council, and manifeſted much approbation of it. I was yeſterday morning with the doctor, and ſaw the model; which, methinks, does ſo well provide for ſecurity, conveniency, and beauty, that I can ſee nothing wanting as to thoſe three main articles; but whether it has conſulted with the populouſneſs of a great city, and whether reaſon of ſtate would have that conſulted with, is a query to me. I then told the doctor, that if I had had an opportunity to ſpeak with him ſooner, I ſhould have ſuggeſted to him, that ſuch a model, contrived by him, and received and approved by the Royal Society, or a committee thereof, before it had come to the view of his majeſty, would have given the Society a name, and made it popular, and availed not a little to ſilence thoſe who aſk continually, what have they done? He anſwered, that he had been ſo preſſed to haſten it, before other deſigns came in, that he could not poſſibly conſult the Society about it. However, ſince it is done without taking in the Society, it muſt ſuffice, that it is a member thereof that hath done it, and, by what I ſee, hath done it ſo, that other models will not equal it; and I hope, that when it comes to be preſented to the parliament, as the author will be named, ſo his relation to the Society will not be omitted.

THE parliament was adjourned from this day to *Friday* next; his majeſty ſending them word, that he deſired to meet them in a fuller houſe. It is conjectured, that ſome news is expected ſhortly from the fleet, whence a meaſure is to be taken of a part, at leaſt, of the ſpeech intended for the parliament. The *French* fleet hath at laſt appeared about the iſle of *Wight*. I conceive that another engagement between us and the *Dutch* being expected, they would draw nigh, to be in readineſs to come in, as a reſerve in the midſt of the combat, and to try their fortune upon a tired, and at leaſt ſomewhat diſabled fleet. But the ſtorm that has been very violent this night, and continues ſtill, though not ſo fierce, is like to have diſappointed all the three fleets (if they have not fought before it) and damnified them exceedingly.

SIR, I intended to have given you an account of what counſel was given on *Sunday* laſt to the king, in a ſermon; as alſo of ſome particulars ſent me from *Paris*; but that I have been tedious enough already, and muſt alſo ſpare my eyes; who am,

SIR,

your very humble,

and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

SIR,

SIR, *London, Sept.* 25, 1666.

I HAVE good hopes the generous inclinations of thoſe two worthy perſons, the lord *Brounker* and Sir *R. Moray*, thus excited by the ready favour of your recommendation, will prove effectual for my relief. I am ſure I am eternally obliged to you for your ſo careful a concern for me. Your commands to me for my lord *Brounker* I hope I ſhall have occaſion to obey to-morrow, when we meet at *Greſham*; which perhaps will be the laſt meeting in that place, the city ſtriving hard to get that college totally into their hands for this time of diſtreſs: which if they obtain, the Society are provided with another place to meet in, to wit, in *Arundel* houſe, by the generoſity of Mr. *Howard*. I doubt not but they will be very well pleaſed with the account of the way of transfuſing blood out of one dog into another; and accordingly order me to return their thanks. I believe Mr. *Martyn* has ſent ſome copies of this month's Tranſactions, printed with ſome difficulty, for *Oxford*; which makes me forbear to charge this letter with an exemplar. If you thought fit, Sir, to gratify the public and me with your excellent queries of mines and petrifying waters, for the approaching month of *October*, in which my *Hungarian* friend intends to depart hence for his country, it would be a very ſeaſonable favour; and the notification of your thoughts concerning it by the firſt conveniency, would be a great addition to it.

THE *French* news I would have written laſt week, are, that at *Paris* they apprehend a peace between *Spain* and *Portugal*; and that they hear a league is concluded between *England* and the houſe of *Auſtria*; which they ſay muſt needs be followed by a conqueſt of *Flanders*, and, they hope, of all the *Low Countries*.

MY philoſophical friend tells me, that another volume of *Des Cartes*'s letters is printed, promiſing to ſend me a copy by the firſt opportunity.

I KNOW not, Sir, whether you heard any thing of the advice given to his majeſty on *Sunday* was ſev'nnight, in a ſermon preached before him by Mr. *Frampton*, lately returned from *Aleppo*. It contained theſe particulars; that his majeſty, for the bringing of virtue and piety into faſhion, would pleaſe to put in execution all his laws againſt impiety and vice; invite ſeriouſly his whole court, the nobility and gentry, to countenance virtue and diſcountenance vice; deny his favour to all libertines and profane perſons; and remove out of his own breaſt, if any thing ſhould lodge there, capable to provoke God's diſpleaſure. All which being done, he aſſured himſelf, that it would not only caſt ſuch a light and ſplendor about his majeſty's throne, as to ſcatter all the works of darkneſs, but alſo bring ſuch a flood of bleſſings upon him and the whole kingdom, that *England* would be the wonder of the world for proſperity.

THE parliament hath voted in general a ſupply proportionable to the king's preſent occaſions. They are to review the account of the expences for the war; and to ſtate, for the rebuilding of *London*, that grand query, how much ſuch a quantity of ground, in ſuch a place, is worth to build upon?

THE *Dutch*, hearing we were all on fire in *London*, reſolved immediately to come out again, and are now in *Margate* road. Our fleet, upon the hearing thereof, will quickly come to them with this wind, and then there may be another fight, if they ſtand it. It is ſomewhat happy, that our fleet of ſome thirty merchantmen, lately come from *Livorno* and *Scanderoon*, gone into *Portſmouth*, are there ſtill (as we hear they are:) for if they had been at ſea at this time, and in their way for *London*, they would hardly have eſcaped falling into the *Dutch* fleet.

I CAN hear nothing of my lord *Brereton:* if I meet Mr. *Haak* to-morrow at *Greſham*, I ſhall enquire after the letter you mention; who am,

SIR, your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

I SUPPOSE

I SUPPOSE Dr. *Lower* will give me leave to make his way of bleeding one dog into another public, to invite others to the like experiments.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 2, 1666.

YOUR laſt, without date, came to my hands this morning. The mention therein made of the extraordinary weight of the atmoſphere at ſuch a morning, and on ſuch a day, makes me take notice of the omiſſion of the date, becauſe it relates to the time of the writing of the letter, which is not expreſſed.

SIR, I ſhall very carefully intimate, what you ſuggeſt concerning the queries of mines, if you pleaſe to communicate them to the public; which if you ſhall give your conſent to, will be more largely obliging and more generally beneficial, than if given only in writing to this or that perſon. I heartily thank you for the hopes you are pleaſed to give me of other queries, or papers, in lieu of thoſe of petrifying ſprings; begging withal your pardon for my importunities. I met this morning our good friend Mr. *Dan. Coxe* at Sir *R. Moray*'s, and perceived by him, that he is very anxious at your being abſent from *London* at that time, when there is an important cauſe to wiſh you here preſent; which yet he did not declare to me, but thus in general.

MY laſt from *Paris* contained an encloſed, from M. *de la Quintinie*, the gentleman gardener, who preſents his humble ſervice to you, among ſeveral others, and ſhews his conſtant addiction to the improvement of gardening; wherein I find he has attained that excellency of ſkill, that he is courted by all the grandees in *France* for it.

MY lord of *Eſſex* hath found the experience of his knowledge of that kind; who being lately returned from *Paris*, was pleaſed to charge himſelf, for my uſe, with a couple of new *French* books; whereof one is of Mr. *Paſchal*, entitled, *Traité de triangle arithmetique, avec quelque autres petits traitéz ſur la meſme matiere*; the other, *Une Relation du Voyage de l'Eveſque de Beryte par la Turquie, Perſe, les Indes; &c. juſques au royaume de Siam, & autres lieux.* I had only leiſure, ſince I received them, to ſkim over the latter; which has much more of the miſſionary in it, than of the philoſopher. That which pleaſes me beſt in him, is the deſcription of the beſt way of travelling into the *Eaſt-Indies* by land, and in what ſeaſon, and in what length of time it may be performed. He notes ſomething of the finding of diamonds in thoſe parts, which I know not well what to make of. It may be, Sir, you will not be diſpleaſed to ſee it; wherefore I ſhall here tranſcribe him verbatim:

Pour trouver les diamans, on prend de la terre, que l'on croit propre à les former (I ſuppoſe he means the earth, that is found in diamond mines) *qui eſt rougeaſtre, entrecoupée de veins blanches & remplies de cailloux, & de mettes dures. On diſpoſe proche des endroits, que l'on veut foüiller, une terre, qui ſoit unie & egalle: On y porte celles, que l'on a tirees de la mine; on l'eſtend doucement, & on la laiſſe expoſée au ſoleil durant deux jours* (this, methinks, is a very ſhort time) *lors qu'elle eſt aſſez deſſeichée, on la bat pour la reduire en poudre, & criblant cette terre ils trouvent les diamans, & reconnoiſſent les cailloux, où la nature les a enchaſſez.* Thus he. I underſtand not whether theſe expoſed earths in ſuch places, that are ſuſpected to have diamond mines, being found afterwards to have little diamonds generated in them, ſhall ſerve for a ſign of ſuch mines or not?

OUR news from ſea is none other than that our fleet is well, and has ſuffered none, but very ſlight, damage in the late ſtorms; which yet have been very unfortunate to us, upon this account, that they have hindered us twice to give the enemy battle, when we had him at very great advantage, and might, in all probability, have obtained a very important victory over him, and thereby neceſſitated him to a peace.

Both

Both the enemies fleets, *French* and *Dutch*, have ſuſtained ſome loſs by the winds; whereof I expect the particulars by the next.

THE rebuilding of the city, as to the model, is ſtill very perplexed; there appearing three parties in the Houſe of Commons about it. Some are for a quite new model, according to Dr. *Wren*'s draught; ſome for the old, yet to build with bricks; others for a middle way, by building a key, and enlarging ſome ſtreets, but keeping the old foundations and vaults. I hear, this very day, there is a meeting of ſome of his majeſty's council and others of the nobility with the leading men of the city, to confer about this great work, and to try whether they can bring it to ſome iſſue, before the people that inhabited *London* do ſcatter into other parts.

THE great ſtreſs will be, how to raiſe money for carrying on the war, and to rebuild the city at the ſame time.

SIR, I muſt not omit to tell you, that my *Pariſian* friend acquaints me, there is one that has anſwered Mr. *Hobbes*'s book *de cive*, but the anſwer not yet printed. He adds; *Ce luy, qui y a travaillé, a de l'eſprit, & a bien reuſſy.*

THEY are troubled at *Paris* at the death of Mr. *Manſart*, their beſt architect, who vied with the chevalier *Bernini*.

ONE monſieur *Varin* hath lately made *le buſte du roy* in marble; which they eſteem no leſs than that of the ſaid *Bernini*.

SIR, if you favour us with the abovementioned queries, and they come to my hands next *Monday*, they will come ſeaſonably for the Tranſactions of this month to,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 16, 1666.

THOUGH I muſt confeſs I reckoned upon the queries touching the mines for the Tranſactions of this month, and that the more, becauſe of my *Hungarian*'s readineſs to return into his country, as alſo (which came but lately to my knowledge) of Mr. *Thynn*'s, who is of the Royal Society, intended voyage for *Sweden*, whither he is to go within this week, as envoy from the king; yet, ſince the communication thereof is but deferred till next month, I am ſtill to give you my humble thanks for continuing your favour and intentions of imparting them to the public by my hand: which acknowledgments I am to redouble for the heads you have been pleaſed to ſend me, concerning ſea-waters; in the publiſhing whereof I ſhall endeavour to obſerve your directions. My firſt to Dr. *Beale* will, if God permit, give him notice of what you propoſe about trials and obſervations for the diſcovery of the nature of petrification, if there be any petrifying ſprings in his neighbourhood.

THE two laſt *Wedneſdays* having been days of humiliation, we have had no meetings at *Greſham* college. And the ſtationers and printers having ſuſtained great loſſes in the late fire, and not knowing, as yet, how to ſettle and to reaſſume their trade, ſo as to make gain thereby; do very much ſcruple to print any thing, except it concern the preſent affairs of the war, and of the city: in regard whereof, it will be very difficult to perſuade them to continue the printing of the Tranſactions, unleſs I let them be printed without conſideration for the charges and pains I am at in the digeſting of them; as I did the laſt: which my condition will not bear, however my ſoul be free enough to conſent to it, if I could.

THE vote for the raiſing of 1,800,000 *l.* you cannot but know; as alſo, that a committee is appointed, to conſider of the beſt way of raiſing it; which, it is thought by many, will be by continuing the tax upon real and perſonal eſtates.

THE other grand affair, about rebuilding the city, is not neglected neither; ſtrict injunction being now iſſued by the lord mayor, in the king's name, to clear the foundations of all burnt houſes of the rubbiſh within a fortnight, which done, the ſurvey and admeaſurement of all ſuch foundations is to be forthwith taken in hand, and that by the care and management of Dr. *Wren* and Mr. *Hook:* which ſurvey is to be exactly regiſtered, for the better ſtating hereafter every one's right and property. And then the method of building will be taken into nearer conſideration, and, it is hoped, within a ſhort time reſolved upon. All which may be more fully ſeen in the printed paper, for that purpoſe, made public by the lord mayor.

FROM *Holland* we have received the printed ſentence of death, pronounced (and ſince executed) by the States General againſt monſieur *Buat*; the ſum whereof is: That he having maintained, beſides a known and allowed correſpondence, another ſecret and forbidden one, with certain miniſters of *England*, and thereby made the world believe, that the States General might make peace with *England* when they would, if they would but ſend perſons thither to treat, and that many of the ſaid States were of the ſame opinion with him: beſides, having entertained motions from *England* for ſeparating from *France*, and for ſending commiſſioners thither, without the *French*, as alſo, having conferred with an *Engliſh* envoy at *Antwerp*, and there contrived a model of a letter, to be written by the king of *England* to the States, to perſuade them to diſpatch ſome perſon to him: which being done, he and his complices in the government would employ themſelves vigorouſly to preſs, in the States aſſembly, that the king's deſire might be complied with. Of which conference in *Antwerp*, a report being made to the king of *England*, his majeſty, though he thought not fit in that conjuncture to write ſuch a letter, yet did very much approve of the deſign of procuring an embaſſy to him: which particulars being written from *England* to *Buat*, he, by a miſtake, delivered that letter, among others, to *De Witt*, and thereby diſcovered his double correſpondency, whereof the unallowed one tended ſo much, as they conceive, to the traducing of their government, and the cauſing of diſturbance and diviſion among their people. That therefore the ſovereign court of *Holland*, *Zealand*, and *Frieſland* did condemn the ſaid *Buat* to have his head cut off, and his goods confiſcated.

FROM *Paris* the letters mention the reſolution there taken by the king, *de pouſſer la guerre vigoroufement, pour reduire les Anglois à la raiſon.* They ſpeak likewiſe of a deſign that the king hath of reforming *Paris*, by freeing it from dirt, rogues, and the tricks of the law: this I ſhall give you in my friend's own words: *Il y a un conſeil de police, qui conſiſte de 8 conſeillers d'eſtat, nommez pour avoir ſoin de la police de Paris, qu'on a diviſé en autant de quartiers. Si on pouvoit nous delivrer de bouës, de filous, & de la chicane, Paris ſeroit une demeure admirables, & il n'y en auroit point au monde de ſemblable.* (There muſt be a river of *Thames* too, to make good ſuch an encomium.) *Outre cela, on pretend mettre un prix fixe au pain, à la viande, au bois, & à toutes autres ſortes de denrees. On pourſuit desja les filles de joye* (this is like to make them *filles triſtes*) *qu'on veut exterminer, parce que leur logis ſervent de retraites aux filoux. Si vous avez quelque bon avis à nous donner, vous nous obligerez, & ſervirez le public.*

I AM hereupon enquiring, what good order there is in *London* worth imitation, and I mean to addreſs my friend to the regulations of *Rome*, as to the ſet prizes of victuals; though there be ſet prizes alſo of ſuch houſes as they intend to rout at *Paris*.

From *Italy* I underſtand, that the pope is in a departing condition, and that there is already great bandying for the next election, which will hardly be made without much diſorder and diſſatisfaction.

FROM

FROM *Spain* comes news, that the peace between that kingdom and *Portugal* is not deſpaired of; the *Engliſh* miniſters there employing themſelves vigouroufly for the procurement thereof.

SIR, I ſuppoſe your eyes are tired; and mine being ſo too, I ſhall ſay no more, than that I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 23, 1666.

I MUST wait for your conveniency of ſending the queries for mines; and in the mean time give you my humble thanks for the favour of your concern in the Tranſactions. To this very hour I have got none yet to print them; and unleſs Mr. *Crook* (whom I do what I can to encourage to it, by promiſing him, that I will endeavour the beſt I can to procure for him the printing ſome good vendible books, as occaſion ſhall ſerve) undertake it, I deſpair of the continuation: however they write to me from *Paris*, that they are very glad to find our Tranſactions go on, notwithſtanding the ſpoil made by the late fire, (which they take occaſion to ſay, upon the ſight of number 17, which was printed after the fire gratis.)

I SHALL take occaſion to enquire after that hiſtory of *Africa* you mention. We hear ſome *French* gentleman or other is to come over, to condole with the king for the loſs of *London*, and to preſent him with ſome pipes of claret. I hope to procure *Des Cartes*'s new volume of letters, and *Honoratus Fabri*, and *Voſſius de Nilo*, *&c.* to be ſent over by that opportunity.

I BELIEVE, Sir, you have ſeen, or will ſee by this poſt, his majeſty's printed declaration of war (which is a very reſolute one) againſt the king of *Denmark*, as his greateſt enemy. The truth is, that king (as is made out by the printed book) has ſo palpably prevaricated, and ſo manifeſtly broken his faith with our king, and acted againſt all honour, even ſo far as to act double with the *Dutch* themſelves, that he will be the moſt contemptible prince in the world, and never be able to waſh out a ſtain of ſo deep a dye. The *Dutch* themſelves, though now they muſt make uſe of him, and his own people, will deſpiſe him, let him varniſh it over as he pleaſeth; the whole charge being grounded upon plain matter of fact, proved by writings, drawn by the privity of the miniſters of three kingdoms, *England*, *Denmark* and *Sweden*. His majeſty could not avoid the remonſtrating hereof, unleſs himſelf would have been contented to lie under the aſperſions of being a violator of the laws of nations; to remove which, he has proved, that the king of *Denmark* invited him, of his own accord, to that hoſtility againſt the *Dutch*, at *Bergen*, which he is by him reproached of, *&c.*

THIS war againſt *Denmark* being like to prove implacable, we muſt caſt about how to get the *Daniſh* commodities another way; which may be done by *Swediſh* and *Hanſe-town* veſſels.

FROM *Paris* they write, that they hope there will ſhortly be a peace between them and *England:* which, I confeſs, I underſtand not how it ſhould be effected, as affairs ſtand; unleſs it be, that our ſolicitations in *Spain* of concluding a truce with *Portugal*, in order to make us enter into a ſtrict league with both, ſhould frighten the *French* king into a timely peace with us, to prevent that confederation.

THE words of the letter, becauſe of their weight, I will give you themſelves: *Si j'oſois eſcrire de nouvelles, je vous en manderois de tres bonnes; & que vous apprendrez d'ailleurs, pourvû qu'on vous en diſe toutes les circonſtances. Je veux croire, que la paix ſe fera dans peu de temps.* This, I ſay again, I underſtand not.

CONCERNING the *Swedes*, another *French* correſpondent writes thus from *Paris*: *Tous les princes de l'empire haïſſent morteliement les Suedois, qui ne ſont plus ſi redoubtables, qu'ils ont eſté. Leurs vieux ſoldats ſont morts, & ils peu de bons officiers; l'argent leur marque, & ils n'en peuvent avoir de nulle part. La France a intereſt, qu'ils ſoyent un peu bas, parceque dans la proſperité ils ſont trop fiers. Cependant la ville de Breme court riſque: il faudra, qu'elle renonce au droit, qu'elle avoit d'aſſiſter aux dietes de l'empire; les Suedois ſouſtenans qu'elle ne'eſt pas immediate.*

OUR parliament has not yet concluded any thing about the way of raiſing the 1,800,000 *l.* nor is the model as yet agreed upon by which the city is to be rebuilded.

THOUGH the Society meets, yet they can do but little in this confuſion of things. The new *Pariſian* academy goes on, but will conſiſt only of a few, intending to ſet up mechanics, chemiſtry, and anatomy, and chuſing perſons fit for the ordering and executing of things neceſſary to improve thoſe parts.

DR. *Beale* writes me word, that he hath received a ſummons from *London*, which he muſt obey, and therefore intends to come up as ſoon as his horſes, gone into *Herefordſhire*, do return. He confirms, by new atteſtations, what he formerly wrote of the trees taken up in the moors near *Bridgwater*; of which many were found within a foot or two of the ſurface of the ground; no branches to be found, only the main bodies, and they as black as ebony.

HE tells me they have no petrifying ſprings in his neighbourhood; but that they have excellent ſprings there for terſive and ſalubrious waters; and one, called *Ruſty-well*, giving ſtones a tincture of ruſty iron. And here he adds, that they want Mr. *Boyle*'s directions for trials of waters: of which kind, if you pleaſe to ſend any, they ſhall be faithfully recommended to him by,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 15, 1666.

I AM ſure that on the *Monday* of that week, in which your laſt mentions, that M. *Davies* expected down ſome copies of *October*'s Tranſactions, there were ſent two or three pacquets, containing ſome dozens of them, to *Oxford*; but I believe to other ſtationers than M. *Davies*. I muſt not ſwell theſe letters with printed papers of that nature, though I preſume to offer them to your view when you are near at hand.

THAT which occaſioned my ſilence to the new magnet when I wrote laſt, was, that your taking no notice at all of it in your anſwer, begot in me a ſuſpicion of your thinking it time enough to have an account of it at your return to *London*. But though I hope you will not now defer that long, yet ſince you are pleaſed to expect an explication of what I then touched, I ſhall give it you briefly, having firſt precautioned you that it comes from a perſon, though much addicted to magnetics, yet eſteemed not very knowing or diſcerning in them; it is Sir *W. Pers:* he ſaith, "That there is a "rock of loadſtones in the iſle of *Angleſey*, hanging over the ſea, of a greeniſh co-"lour, which he went lately to ſee, and, breaking off ſome ſtones, found they were "perfect magnets, becauſe they would nimbly excite a verſorium. But as to their "attraction, they would hardly take up a needle, though every ſtone was full as big "as a man's hand; though poſſibly towards the middle the attraction may prove "more vigorous, the virtue of the outward parts, becauſe expoſed to the cold air "and winds, being perhaps much impaired. I took an obſervation (ſo he goes on) "which gave me great ſatisfaction, in order to confute *Des Cartes*'s opinion (which

"imports,

" imports, that the heat of the torrid zone draws the *particulæ ſtriatæ* from the north, " which paſſing, by a kind of tranation, through the bodies of magnets, give them " the influence of their conſtant poſition to north and ſouth;) for I made trial by the " help of a verſorium, and going about ſeveral parts I found ſome out-parts of the " rock, wherein the weather and tempeſts had made great cavities, that ſome of the " poles were directly north-eaſt, and in two places directly eaſt and weſt." So far he. The Society has given me order to recommend to Mr. *Bagnall*, one of our body, and of power, as is ſuppoſed, in *Angleſey*, that he would get the rock there cut, and ſome innermoſt pieces ſent hither; which I intend, God willing, to perform, as ſoon as poſſibly I can meet with the perſon.

WE have now conquered the difficulty of bleeding one animal into another. Some perſons, appointed by the Society, performed the operation firſt by themſelves upon a couple of ſheep, with good ſucceſs, as they reported: but then they did it yeſterday before the Society, very ſucceſsfully alſo, upon a bull-maſtiff and a ſpaniel, the former being the emittent, the other the recipient. It took up ſo much time, that there was very little left to conſider and diſcourſe of the improvement, eſpecially there being ſo many perſons to be ballotted, whereof five were to audit the account, and three more to be received into the Society, which were the lord Privy Seal, the biſhop of *Lincoln*, and Mr. *Mercator*; (my lord *Mancheſter* and my lord *Carliſle* having been alſo not long ſince elected into that corporation.) Colonel *Blunt* preſented the company with ſeveral not diſpleaſing particulars; with two ſorts of *Engliſh* wines, new and old; with excellent ſcorzoneras, which he ſaid might be propagated in *England*, as much as parſnips; with a pea, of an almoſt incredible fertility; and with a ſpirit of cherry wine, of a ſingular ſtrength.

FOR news, there is not very much at preſent. We have almoſt every week a fire. Our peace will be ſtrangely hindered by *France*. The money to carry on the war is debated of (as to the moſt ſatisfactory way of raiſing it) with great deliberation, but not without ſcratching. The building work is cool for the preſent, but will quickly grow warm again, as ſoon as the way of raiſing the money is once reſolved on, and the method of building determined. Our winter fleet is ready to go to ſea, and to fetch home the *Gottenberg* fleet, ſo neceſſary for our next ſetting out againſt our enemies.

DR. *Beale* went this day out of town, much diſſatisfied with what has paſſed in Mr. *Hopton*'s cauſe.

I HUMBLY thank you, for your permiſſion of printing the Mine-Enquiries; and I am,

SIR,

your very faithful and humble ſervant,

H. O.

THE proclamation for baniſhing *Romiſh* prieſts and Jeſuits, and for putting the other laws againſt recuſants in execution, is public: and two others will ſhortly follow; one againſt *French* commodities, the other againſt *Canary* wines.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 3, 1667.

I WAS ſo ſtifled by the priſon air, that as ſoon as I had my enlargement from the *Tower* I widened it, and took it from *London* into the country, to fan myſelf for ſome days in the good air of *Craford* in *Kent*. Being now returned, and having recovered my ſtomach, which I had in a manner quite loſt, I intend, if God will, to fall to my old trade, if I have any ſupport to follow it. My late misfortune I fear will

will much prejudice me; many persons, unacquainted with me, and hearing me to be a stranger, being apt to derive a suspicion upon me. Not a few came to the *Tower*, merely to enquire after my crime, and to see the warrant; in which, when they found that it was for dangerous designs and practices, they spread it over *London*, and made others have no good opinion of me. *Incarcera audaster, semper aliquid hæret.* Before I went into the country I waited on my lord *Arlington*, kissing the rod. I hope I shall live fully to satisfy his majesty, and all honest *Englishmen*, of my integrity, and of my real zeal to spend the remainder of my life in doing faithful service to the nation, to the very utmost of my abilities. I have learned, during this commitment, to know my real friends. God Almighty bless them, and enable me to convince them all of my gratitude. Sir, I acknowledge and beg pardon for the importunities I gave you at the beginning; assuring you, that you cannot lay any commands on me I shall not cheerfully obey to the best of my power.

THE box you mention, I doubt, is only addressed to me for another, who, I guess, is Mr. *Shirley*; considering that he and I engaged a friend (that went over with our ambassadors to *Breda*) to make it a part of his business to find some of the ludus at *Antwerp*, (whither he intended to make an excursion) and having found a quantity to send it over, directing it rather to me, whose house is well known, than to M. *Shirley*, who is now released of his military commands, and resolved to fall to his practice of physic in good earnest, being very much your servant. If you please, Sir, you have the freedom to open the box, and then send it to me, together with your judgment of its being the genuine ludus, or not. I come but just now out of the country, so that I have seen no body since my return, nor heard of any news, but the change of the lord chancellor. Certainly my friends abroad think me either dead, or very sick; which will oblige me to hasten the renewing of my commerce, thereby to obtain the better occasion to express myself,

SIR, your faithful humble servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

My hearty service, I pray, to Dr. *Wallis*, and those other friends of mine, that perhaps may enquire after me.

SIR, *London, Sep.* 12, 1667.

THOUGH it be above a fortnight since I gave notice to some of my corresponding friends that I was returned to my former station, yet have I received as yet no answer from any but yourself and Dr. *Beale*, (for which I am the more obliged to you) which makes me conjecture that foreigners, especially in the neighbouring parts, may be grown shy to reassume that commerce they were wont to entertain with me, out of some tenderness and concern for my safety, which they may judge may be endangered as well by their freeness of writing to me, as by mine of writing to them. But I intend to take them off from such apprehensions, if I find really they are possessed with them, by confining our communications to matters of a philosophical nature; or, if there be a mixture of civil things, to such of them as cannot be misinterpreted, or suspected of any ill design.

THE transfusing experiment I find grows famous; our friend at *Yeovill* offering some subjects to try it upon. They are, one a gentleman of the biggest account of that country, and a sad example of draining away too much of his blood (to allay the distemper of his brain) now emasculated, and for these many years changed from the most haughty and courageous temper to the most pusillanimous: it is Sir *John Stowell*, elder brother to the high sheriff colonel *Stowell*. Perchance a supply of lamb's blood had done better, or might yet give some degree of recovery. But younger brothers, perhaps,

perhaps, would not be much obliged for the performance of such cures, no more than cardinals will for the confirmation of the health of popes this way. Another in the same country is one Mr. *Thomas Hawker*, who hath been outrageously distracted above a year, upon whom two famed empirics have had their turns in trying all old ways in vain. Concerning this latter, our friend saith that he believes he could persuade his wife to send him to *Oxford*, she being well able and willing to gratify the physician. Sir, think of this, I pray, and give me your advice, when you shall have communicated it with some of those that are versed in making the experiment, and have been informed how successfully this trial hath been already made upon men, both sick and well, at *Paris*.

DR. *Beale* adds in these very words, "We do extremely want Mr. *Boyle*'s discourse "on heat and flame, and his other good promises:" and he adds this query, "Did "we not hear of subordinate forms and qualities to be adjoined to the re-impression "of Hydrostatics; and of the other part of Usefulness, and of more Pneumatics?"

I ANSWER him, that you must be left to go your own pace, which is faster and to more purpose than that of any naturalist within ken. Mean time, Sir, if you have any of those subjects in the press, I hope you will favour me with informing me of it.

SIR, if you have those papers of mine I received from Mr. *Colepresse* by you, I would beg the return of them to me, though Mr. *Martyn* is scrupulous afresh to continue the printing of the Transactions; and that forsooth, because the book printed in *June* (that distracted month) sold so ill, as to make him lose by it. The morosity and fickleness of these men is mighty tedious to me. I wish I had another way for subsistence. I should be, if I know myself well, generous enough to let them have it upon their own terms.

I WOULD gladly know, whether Dr. *Willis*'s book *de Scorbuto* be near furnished to be printed. I hear Dr. *Needham*'s *Dissertatio de fœtu formato* will come abroad ere long.

DR. *Shirley* wishes you here, as well as others of your friends. The box of the ludus is not yet come to the hands of,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful servant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 17, 1667.

YESTERDAY, when I received the favour of yours, I received also the first foreign letter since my enlargement; which puts me in good hopes of re-establishing my former philosophical commerce. By it I perceive the *Parisian* virtuosi employ themselves much in anatomical disquisitions. They have lately made dissections of some fishes, and of a lion, the account whereof I look for in part by the first opportunity. At *Caen* they have dissected the eye of an owl, which also I expect the particulars of. Monsieur *Steno*, I hear, has published a treatise *de Motu Musculorum*; and *Godartius* an addition to his book *de Insectis*; another *Dutchman* being also at work upon the same subject.

I KNOW not, whether during my confinement you had heard of the *Tetras anatomicarum epistolarum Malpighii* (*Siculi*) *& Fracassati* (*Pisani*) *de lingua & cerebro*; together with an exercitation *de omento*. It is in print, and written for by me to be sent over. I pray, Sir, if you can conveniently, order the injecting into the veins of a dog some oil of sulphur, and see what will be the consequence of it; and observe particularly, whether the dog will feed with an extraordinary avidity upon it. I wish also,

alſo, that an injection might be made with oil of tartar; and in caſe the dog die (as it is like he will) that he may be opened, and his blood well obſerved.

THE Royal Society hath not met theſe two months, but I hope they will ſhortly meet again. I know not what deadneſs there is upon the members of it. I intend to urge, God willing, that thoſe who have hitherto appeared to be cordial for the advancement of its deſign, may combine together with a new zeal, and try to inſpire the like concern and fervor into others, that have been cool enough hitherto, to the end that ſo noble and uſeful an inſtitution may not fall to the ground, in an age ſo full of knowledge and curioſity, and enjoying ſo conſiderable advantages to improve and increaſe the ſame.

SIR, how declining ſoever the words of your laſt letter ſeem to be, as to the publiſhing of thoſe good things you are known to have yet in ſtore, I am confident you cannot obtain of your generoſity the hiding of your reſidue of your talent. And I ſhall be very glad to ſee what you have retrieved of your treatiſe of Heat and Flame, and if you will allow me to communicate the liſt of thoſe experiments to the public, to provoke others to make trials accordingly. I humbly thank you for the copy of the augmented treatiſe of Forms you intend me; and I am perſuaded the Society will take it very ill, if you ſhould paſs them by without preſenting them with an exemplar of the ſame. I intend one for Dr. *Beale*, as ſoon as any number of them comes hither, he being one of the moſt inquiſitive men after all your productions.

MR. *Colepreſſe*'s papers to me will certainly be found in your ſcrutore, ſince I cannot find them upon the ſearch through all my papers: and I remember, that though I mentioned them once, and you were ready to return them me, yet I ſtopped you, ſaying I had not yet occaſion for them.

FOR civil affairs, we look every day for the arrival of the *Dutch* embaſſadors; and I wonder they were not here ſooner to prevent Monſieur *Ruvigny*, who is ſaid to endeavour a ſtricter alliance between us and *France*. It is diſcourſed, that the United Provinces have furniſhed great ſums of money for the defence of the *Spaniſh* provinces, for which they are to receive, by way of ſecurity, *Antwerp* and ſome others of the *Spaniſh* towns; which, if true, how it will ſerve to keep the peace between *France* and *Holland* I underſtand not.

MY *Pariſian* friend hath theſe particulars:

1. *Le roy eſt maitre d'un bonne partie de la Flandre, & en eſtat de pouſſer ſes conqueſtes bien plus avant.*

2. *Monſieur de Turenne fortifié Deynſe, & à des troupes à Aloſt pour incommoder les ennemis & ruiner leur quartiers. Cependant, l'armee ſubſiſtera en Flandres des contributions, & le roy ne ſera pas obligé de faire de grandes deſpenſes.*

3. *Les princes du Rhin ſons dans nos intereſts.*

4. *La Suede doit envoyer Monſieur de Dona pour travailler à la paix: le pape s'en meſle auſſi; mais avec tout cela on ne croit pas, qu'elle ſe face.*

5. *Le ſiege Candie continue toujours: ceux de la ville ſe defendent vailliament. Il y à quatre mois, qu'ils reſiſtent au Grand Viſir, qui avoit pres de 60,000 hommes.*

6. *Le G. Seigneur veut, que la Pologne rompe avec le Moſcovite, & qu'elle laiſſe les Coſaques en paix, qui ſont ſoubs ſa protection: cela obligera l'empereur d'avoir des troupes ſur la frontiere.*

THE duke of *York*'s ſon was baptized *Sunday* laſt, and named *Edgar*. This maketh many look back upon that brave *Saxon* king *Edgar*, who reduced *ſeculo decimo* (if I miſtake not) the *Saxon* heptarchy into a monarchy, and had a very numerous fleet, conſiſting of above three thouſand ſhips, with part of which he ſailed every year in perſon round about theſe iſlands, ſcouring them from all pirates. He alſo preſſed very much the

the due execution of juſtice, and bound all his judges with great ſtrictneſs to an entire performance of their duty in that particular. It is the ſame, that is ſo famous for making ſo notable a game of his falſe favourite *Ethelwoolf*, becauſe he had ſo deceitfully uſurped from him the fair *Elfrida*, to whom he was ſent by *Edgar* to view her celebrated beauty, and to engage her for his nuptial bed, if the thing agreed with the fame. I leave you to think the reſt, remaining,

SIR,

your very humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

DR. *Shirley* is now with me, and your humble ſervant.

MY humble ſervice to Dr. *Wallis*, I pray, to whom the communication both of the philoſophical and civil part of this letter will perhaps not be unacceptable.

I DO not find by your laſt letter, that ſuch an attempt for transfuſion, for which I ſuggeſted in my examples in my former, will be undertaken by any body there.

SIR, *London, Sept.* 24, 1667.

I LAY hold of your favour, which engages you to be particular at your next conveniency of writing; as alſo to allow me a copy of *Colepreſſe*'s papers, which I may be able to acknowledge with ſome others from the ſame hand. I hope, Sir, you will be pleaſed now and then to furniſh my Tranſactions with new philoſophical enquiries, they proving ſo uſeful to the public, and ſo exciting the thoughts and diſquiſitions of ingenious men. Mr. *Martyn* is now printing the Tranſactions of this month, which will compriſe alſo the two next precedent; and contain in the beginning an animadverſion on the *Engliſhed* letter of Monſieur *Denys* concerning the transfuſion: which tranſlation I diſown for mine, inſcribing this tract with num. 17. which the ſtationer too boldly preſumed to give to that tranſlated letter.

I HOPE my cenſure on the there mentioned ten years conception before its birth here in *England*, will ſatisfy thoſe ingenious gentlemen of *England*, that are concerned in that invention; of which I alſo diſcourſed lately with Dr. *Lower*, who gave me a kind viſit, and took occaſion to ſpeak of that particular; whom I aſſured, that I had no hand at all in the tranſlation of that letter; which I was ſo far from, that though I had the *French* original before any body had it in *England*, which was the ſame day of my confinement, yet would I not impart it to any perſon, becauſe I fully intended not to publiſh it without ſuch an animadverſion, as I now have ſent to the preſs. Mean time Mr. *Martyn* deals very mercenarily with me; for knowing that others will hardly undertake the printing of theſe papers, now ſo many of them have been printed by ſeveral, which renders it difficult for one to compleat them, without redeeming the intereſt of others; he knowing this, I ſay, hath conſtrained me to abate him the rate yet lower, ſo that after the proportion he allows now, I ſhall hardly bring it to 30*l.* a year.

SIR, I find now the biſhop of *Saliſbury*, Dr. *Ward*, is concerned for me; and I know, that he hath occaſions to advance perſons to beneficial employments, and that frequently there fall places that come to his knowledge, and for the ſupply whereof his advice is deſired. If it were not that you muſt employ an amanuenſis, I could preſume to entreat your favour of recommending me to him, and to his remembrance, in caſe any ſuch place ſhould fall that he ſhould hear of, and think conſiſtent with my office to the Royal Society.

JUST now comes in the *French* poſt, acquainting me in a letter with the following particulars.

1. *On ſe prepare icy à la guerre plus que jamais. Le roy aura plus de* 80,000 *hommes l'année qui vient, & il ſera en eſtat de reſiſter à tous ceux, qui voudroient s'oppoſer à ſes deſſeins. Il ſemble, que les Suedois meſmes ont de la jalouſie de ſes conqueſtes, auſſi bien que pluſieurs autres princes. Meſſieurs les eſtats ne ſont pas peu en peine.*

2. *Les Eſpagnols offrent aux Provinces Unies, de leur mettre les places de Gueldres entre les mains, moyennant une ſomme conſiderable, qu'ils leur donneront.*

3. *Le pape veut eſtre le grand mediateur de la paix. Mais on aura de la peine de ſe fier à luy. Cette paix ſera aſſez difficile à faire, parce qu'on ne peut donner aucune ſeureté, que l'Eſpagne demandera en quittant ſon pays, & en donnant ſatisfaction au roy.*

4. *Monſieur de Roquelaure ire en embaſſade en Angletere.*

5. *On croit icy, que la flotte Americane d'Eſpagne eſt arrivée.*

6. *Les Tartares, les Coſaques, & les Turcs marchent pour entrer en Pologne. Ils veulent attaquer Kammel-podoſki. Les Turcs ſont aſſurez de la Volinie, Podolie & de l'Ukraine. Les Polonois ſont diviſez, & n'ont que* 15 *ou* 20,000 *hommes. En fin, ce pauvre pais là eſt à la veille de ſa ruine. Avec le temps, ſi les Turcs en ſont maiſtres, ils ne laiſſeront pas l'Allemagne en repos.*

7. *Candie ne pourra pas reſiſter long temps. L'Europe, qui ſe va affoiblir, pourra bien avec le temps avoir ſujet de craindre.*

8. *On travaille à executer un arreſt en parlement, qui ordonne, que les moines, qui ont du bien, ne prendront plus d'argent, ny de penſions viageres. Ceux qui ſont pauvres, ne prendront que ces rentes viageres, & point de dot. On reglera auſſi le nombre, qui doit eſtre dans chaque couvent.*

9. *Nous aurons la ſeconde partie du code dans* 3 *mois, au pluſtard.*

A FRIEND of mine here informs me, that the *Dutch* embaſſador, at his late audience of conge at *Paris*, inſiſting that the king would pleaſe to expreſs himſelf ſomewhat more clearly as to his pretenſions to the *Spaniſh Netherlands*; the king anſwered, he had already declared himſelf plainly enough as to that matter, and proteſted, that he pretended no farther than to what was in the preſent poſſeſſion of the king of *Spain*. Whereupon the embaſſador deſiring that the declaration might be verified in parliament, the king replied, that he gave his parole for it: but the miniſter urging the verification, the king at laſt anſwered, *ſi vous ne voulez pas prendre ma parole, prenez vos meſures.*

I RECEIVED very lately a letter from a new correſpondent in *Milan*, Signior *Septalio*, a very knowing and curious gentleman. By him I underſtand, that M. *Steno*'s book, entitled, *Elementorum Myologiæ Specimen, ſeu Muſculi Deſcriptio Geometrica*, is now public, dedicated to the great duke of *Tuſcany*. The other particulars in this letter you are like to find in the Tranſactions, which are now a printing by the care of,

SIR,

your faithful and humble ſervant.

HENRY OLDENBURG.

MY humble ſervice, I pray, to Dr. *Wallis*.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 1, 1667.

THE two books, you mention in your laſt to have ſent by the coach the day before the date of your letter (which muſt be *Thurſday* laſt, the ſaid date being of *Sept.* 27.) are not yet come to hand: when they do, they ſhall be diſpoſed of, God permitting, as you have ordered me. I humbly thank you both for the preſent of one of thoſe books, to be furniſhed by M. *Herringman*, and for the communication of the four paradoxes concerning flame. If they were not forbid to be made public, they would

would certainly kindle many of the curiouſeſt of philoſophers to try concluſions. But you may be ſure I ſhall keep them ſecret, as long as I receive no leave to divulge them. The like you may be confident of, whenever you ſhall pleaſe to impart to me thoſe wild heads, as you term them, of your Sceptical Naturaliſt.

THERE is a certain gentleman, a florid writer, one of our royal collegiates, who intends to print ſhortly ſome paralipomena, relating to the hiſtory of our Society; wherein he means to take more notice of the performances of ſome eminent members thereof, than hath been done by M. *Sprat*; and farther to recommend and vindicate the modern experimental philoſophers, by repreſenting the advantages of this way of trial, both for light and uſe, above that of former times. It had been extant, I find by his letter, ere this, but that he ſtayed for M. *Sprat*, to ſee what room he would leave for his thoughts; and finding now that he hath not throughout prevented him, he ſeems reſolved to purſue his deſign, though it will make not above half a dozen ſheets, and therein to acknowledge ſome grand contributions to philoſophy that have been omitted by the other. This is but juſt, and hath therefore received encouragement from me, together with the ſuggeſtion of ſome particulars, which this author could not be acquainted with ſo well as the ſuggeſtor.

I HOPED to have here included the Tranſactions of *September*; but they are not yet come from the preſs. They will be to-morrow, I think; and then the ſtationer will take care to ſend ſome of them to *Oxford*. There are mixed, among the contents, ſome experiments and obſervations ſent out of *Italy*, and from *Meſſina*, about injections into veins, the tongue and brain, the optic nerve in fiſhes, *&c.* which perhaps will not diſpleaſe you. There is alſo an account of Dr. *Needham*'s new book *De Fœtu*; to whom I ſhall deliver any thing you command me. I could not, ſince I received your letter, ſee Mr. *Crook*; but as ſoon as I can I ſhall diſcharge your commiſſion. I did, very lately, among other things, ſend to *Paris*, being ſolicited to do ſo, two of your books in *Latin*, that of Colours and the Phyſiological Eſſays. Methinks that the Experiments of the air in the rarifying engine ſhould have a ſecond edition, as well as the Eſſays, it being altogether out of print. I am ſure I can get none of them, ſince I lent my exemplar to one, who forgets to return it, as well as I have forgot who he is.

MR. *Glanville* hath ſent me an anſwer to ſome of the mineral enquiries, formerly printed in the Tranſactions, and promiſeth more. I think I muſt now publiſh ſome of thoſe anſwers, that it may appear to the world how uſeful the publication of ſuch queries is to the increaſe of knowledge: elſe they are apt to ſay, he fills his book with queries, but we never ſee an anſwer to any of them.

FOR ſtate news, there is but little at preſent that I know. The act againſt importing cattle out of *Ireland* is enforced by a proclamation, deſigned to prevent fraud and colluſion. Moſt people here look for an act of comprehenſion; but how far it ſhall extend, and whether it ſhall take the ſubjects of this favour into the church, and to church livings, or only tolerate them in the free exerciſe of their way, is yet uncertain.

THE *French* king appears more and more to have vaſt deſigns. He graſps on all ſides, *Germany*, *Italy*, and *Catalonia*, as well as *Flanders*. The prince of *Condé*, and the duke of *Enguien*, his ſon, are to command an army of twenty thouſand men in *Germany*, Monſieur *de Turenne* having induced his maſter to give the ſaid prince that command. The duke of *Orleans* is to be general in *Catalonia*, and the duke of *Savoy* in *Italy*: ſo that we are like to ſee great actions next ſummer. *Sweden* cannot but look upon this war as very advantageous to them, and likely to make them to be courted by both ſides. How *Holland* will be able to keep themſelves from engaging in it, appears not, at leaſt to me; and what *England* will do in reference to it, I ſuppoſe very few can tell. The emperor is now reſolved to ſend a conſiderable army into *Flanders* for

their relief; and it is affirmed, that *Germany* hath incorporated the *Spaniſh Netherlands* into the empire, and will therefore appear in the defence thereof as a member of it.

SUMMONS are this very day ſent about for re-aſſembling of our Society on *Thurſday* next in *Arundel* houſe. And though the council expreſſed to Mr. *Howard* their tenderneſs and ſcruple of continuing their meetings there, ſeeing his ſons are come home, who need many rooms with their attendants; yet is the Society urged by that noble perſon to go on there, as they have begun, alledging it to be an honour and reputation to him to do ſo. Some of us are ſo ſanguine as to believe, we ſhall have a college of our own erected before the end of next ſummer. I know many infidels in this caſe, of whom he profeſſes himſelf to be one, that is,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 8, 1667.

I RECEIVED the two gilt books the next day after my laſt to you, and I have preſented them both, *præmiſſis præmittendis*, as you ordered me; and both the Society and my lord *Brounker* enjoined me to return you their hearty thanks, expreſſing withal their kind reception of it. The ſame day was preſented them Dr. *Needham*'s diſquiſition on the *fœtu formato*. He was lately elected into the Society, as Sir *Maurice Berkley* was propoſed candidate on *Thurſday* laſt: which meeting, though it was deſtitute of experiments, yet was not ill ſpent, in taking account of the many communications, both foreign and domeſtic, that were come to hand during the vacation. Among the foreign were thoſe of *Malpighi*, *Fracaſſati*, and *Septalio*, as alſo that of Sir *William Curtius* about a kind of maſtic, made by ants in *Franconia*, in *Sylva Ottoniana*, which was looked upon as a new diſcovery. Both the matter itſelf, and the deſcription of it, you will find here at your return. The domeſtic came from Mr. *Glanville* and Mr. *Colepreſſe*, both concerning mines; and from one Mr. *John Burton* of *Norfolk*, who being encouraged, as his letter to me intimateth, by our Hiſtory and the Tranſactions, imparted ſome obſervations of his, deſcribed in *Latin*, 1. *De gallina Indica nummulos deglutiente, quorum planè lævigata fuit ſuperficies, ne minimo quidem effigiei regiæ veſtigio relicto.* 2. *De aqua petrifica in loco quodam nemoroſo, plano, & uliginoſo Norfolciæ*, called *Deepham*. 3. *De tumulo mobili in ſtagno aquæ reſidis*, in the ſame country. Of all which you may ſee the particulars at convenient time and place.

DR. *Beale* hath ſince recommended and much preſſed the conſideration of the aids of hearing, taking notice of a long, deep, narrow and dry trench (which was intended for an aqueduct) in a low vale, wherein he received and diſtinguiſhed audibles very perfectly; not being able to hear any noiſe at all, at any diſtance from that trench. Some like aid, he ſaith, he had from a wood of very tall and old oaks upon a higher ground (not a hill) about a mile diſtant from that trench. He is of opinion, that the beſt time to try the trench were in the ſilence of the night and of the winds: and for the woods, when the froſt hath ſtripped them of their leaves, and perchance when the ſap is leaſt buſy.

AGAIN, for odours, the ſame perſon repreſents, that the theory of it may be much better perfected than we have yet ſeen it; adding, that ſome of human race, by ſlender diet, drink of water only, bread, and food of little odour, clean lodgings, *&c.* may have (for ought we know) a more univerſal extent in ſmelling, than dogs or vultures: where he inſtances in himſelf how ſubtle his ſmell was, when he was accuſtomed only to drink water mixed with a very ſmall quantity of wine; the like not being

being to be looked for from beer-drinkers and high feeders. He would have us enquire the ſeveral degrees of ſmelling in vultures, ravens, cormorants, kites, hounds of ſeveral guizes and ſizes, and ſpaniels, *&c.* and their anatomical differences in their narine parts, pores, or moiſture adherent within or without; what animals diſtinguiſh flowers, as we do; and how ſome odours do become ſo pleaſing to ſome, and ſo intolerable to others, *&c.*

HAVING diſcourſed of theſe and the like particulars, he tells me, that I would oblige many, if in my next I ranſactions I would give a brief liſt of all your writings in public, what in *Engliſh* and what in *Latin*, in what volume, and what later editions; where he mentions the Experiments of Air, *&c.* reprinted with additions, againſt *Hobbes* and *Linus*, all in one volume, in 4to; which laſt, I confeſs, I have not ſeen.

AFTER this, he concludes thus; "If we had his Dialogue of Heat and Flame; his Experiments concerning the Nature of Fire; his Sceptical Naturaliſt; his Eſſays of Spontaneous Generations, and the improbable Truths; there would be work enough for all the tongues and pens in both our univerſities; and fully ſufficient to rout all their notions concerning the generalities of nature."

SIR, I cannot but expect your declaration hereupon. I could not yet come to ſpeak with Mr. *Crook*; but I ſhall bear in mind your concerns. I am glad you ſay ſomething in anſwer to Dr. *Beale*'s former queries about ſome particulars in your book of Cold. I am confident he will be very glad of an exemplar of the ſecond edition of Forms and Qualities; which will make me preſume upon the intimation given in your laſt, to beſpeak one for him from M. *Herringman*.

SIR, if you look for civil news, I can tell you what my *Pariſian* friend writes; *viz.*

1. *Tout le monde attend avec impatience la reſolution, qu'on prendra dans voſtre iſle pour l'affaire des Païs Bas. Toute l'Allemagne eſt en armes. On croit, que les electeurs de Baviere & de Saxe ne ſeront pas pour nous, non plus que les Suedois. Cela ne nous fait pas peur, parce qu'on aura une armée conſiderable en Flandre, & deux autres, au moins, en Allemagne & en Catalogne, pour attaquer la maiſon d'Auſtriche par tout.*

2. *Les Hollandois ne s'endorment pas, & ils ne peuvent ſonger au voiſinage de la France, qu'avec frayeur, craignant qu'on n'ait deſſein de ruiner leur commerce, & de demander les places du Braband.*

3. *On a cenſuré à Rome la traduction du nouveau teſtament de meſſieurs du Port Royal.* (Theſe you know to be the *Janſeniſts.*) *Il y a* 12. *docteurs de Sorbonne, qui l'examinent. Peut eſtre, que par complaiſance ils pourront bien auſſi la condamner, quoy qu'il n'y ait que de petites fautes.*

4. *Nous aurons bientoſt un traitté pour faire voir, que le roy peut fixer le nombre des Moines, parce qu'il eſt maiſtre de la police eccleſiaſtique & executive des Canons.*

I FORGOT, in the philoſophical part of my communications, that a curious *Pariſian* writes me word, that ſome ſubſtances were ſent to *Paris* from *Tholouſe*, much reſembling teeth, and for their extraordinary bigneſs, reputed to be the teeth of a giant. But, after examination, it was found to be a *luſus naturæ*. Expoſing it to the fire with ſpirit of wine, they make now blue ſtones of them, as fair as topazes, which they wear in rings.

THE experiment of transfuſion was tried at *Paris* upon a baron of *Sweden*; but he dying, his inteſtines were found all gangrened, ſo that it was not poſſible to have recovered him by any known natural means. This invention is hugely diſputed abroad pro and con; of which I alſo received lately ſome ſpecimina in print, both *French* and *Latin*; whereof he may ſhortly give a fuller account in public, who is,

SIR, your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

London

London fills extremely both with people and with expectations from the parliament, in reference chiefly to the chancellor and the church.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 15, 1667.

AS I return you my humble thanks for your favour of imparting to me the relation about the growth of a magnet, ſo I am fully of your opinion, that it ought not to be publiſhed till farther confirmation. When your leiſure will permit, I doubt not but you will endeavour to ſatisfy Dr. *Beale* in the particular about the liquor of amber.

SIR, the declaration deſired of you in my laſt, refers only to Dr. *Beale*'s motion about publiſhing a liſt of your writings, already printed; you formerly expreſſed your thoughts of what you have in ſtore, and of what is to be expected as to their publications. I think that ſince there is a liſt of your printed books, as well as of others, half promiſed, in print already, *viz.* annexed to your Hiſtory of Cold, it will be better, if there be occaſion, to refer thither, than to reprint ſuch a liſt.

As ſoon as I can obtain the exemplars of your reprinted *Origin of Forms*, I ſhall diſpoſe of them as you have directed. I have not yet got thoſe two you were pleaſed to allow me to call for, one for Dr. *Beale*, and one for myſelf, who would give ſome account of the appendix, in the Tranſactions of this month. I read to Mr. *Herringman*, what you ſaid about it in one of your laſt to me; and he again read to me another of Mr. *Maires* to him, importing, that he ſhould bind ſix of them, and ſend two of them gilt to my lady *Ranelagh*, and keep the reſt till farther order. I know not yet what was writ to him by the yeſterday's poſt. On *Thurſday* laſt we repeated at our meeting, that notable experiment of opening a dog, and laying bare his lungs, and blowing into him with bellows, keeping him thus alive as long as we pleaſed; which occaſioned ſome diſcourſe about the nature and uſe of reſpiration; ſome of the company declaring, that this experiment made out what was not the uſe of reſpiration; others intimating, that it ſeemed to teach that the principal end of reſpiration was the diſcharging the fumes of the blood; the animal keeping alive, and lying ſtill, as long as the lungs were ſupplied, and kept extended with freſh air; and falling ſoon into convulſions, when we ceaſed to blow.

AT our next meeting, Dr. *Lower* has promiſed to make the experiment of breaking a nerve of the diaphragm, to render an animal broken-winded.

MANY things come to my hands from all parts; but I want hands extremely to diſperſe them to my friends as I wiſh. I am very buſy this day in making diſpatches for ſeveral parts of the world, of divers books of our Hiſtory; and they muſt all be accompanied with letters: beſides thoſe, I intend to tranſmit to *Florence*, for prince *Leopold*; to *Madrid*, for the earl of *Sandwich*; to *Paris*, for our fellow-members there; to *Dantzick*, for *Hevelius*; I cannot but ſend alſo one to *New-England*, for Mr. *Winthrop*, having now a very good opportunity for doing ſo; and, at the ſame time, in my letter, ſolicit him to endeavour to ſeaſon the youth of *New-England* with our experimental philoſophy.

FOR matter of ſtate news, I ſhall only hint theſe particulars that regard foreign parts; ſuppoſing you have what is domeſtic, from better hands.

FROM *Paris*,

1. *Les Eſpagnols negocient par tout. Ils eſperent, que la Hollande, la Suede, & le Brandeburg ſe declarerent pour eux. Ils n'attendent de l'Angleterre, qu'une neutralité. Ils ſe flattent, que Baviere pourra revenir, & eſtre pour eux. Les ducs de Lunenburg ont des troupes, & pourront bien eſtre pour la France, où ils ont un envoyé.*

2. *Le pape fait d'aſſez bonnes choſes; mais on ne croit pas, qu'il vive long-temps.*

3. *Nous*

3. *Nous avons de mauvaiſes nouvelles de Candie cette ſemaine, neantmoins ils ſe deffendent touſjours bien.*

4. *Un, nomme Aubry, qui avoit fait un traité des pretenſions du roy ſur l'empire, ſans aveu, à eſté mis à la Baſtille; le livre n'eſt pas bien fait.*

5. *Le duc de Loraine avoit tiré de l'argent de ſes ſujets, dans l'eſperance, qu'ils ſeroient neutres; mais le roy n'a pas voulu luy accorder la neutralité. Il leve des troupes pour ſe garentir, s'il peut, des incurſions des uns & des autres; mais il faudra, qu'il marche droit.*

ANOTHER friend in *France* writes this philoſophical particular:

Nos gens apportent du plomb de l'Amerique, qui eſt preſque pur metal. J'en ay donné à un homme expert dans cette matiere, qui en doit faire l'eſſay. Je vous diray ce qu'il en aura obſervé.

SIR, if I miſtake not, Mr. *Winthrop* gave you ſome ſuch, and not only of pure lead, but alſo of copper.

FOR all my haſte, I cannot let this go without annexing the verſes, lately made by a philoſopher of *Paris*, (who is M. *de Monmor*) upon the preſent undertaking of his king.

Fulminat attonitas Scaldis Lodoicus ad arces,
Intrepiduſque hoſtes terret & ille ſuos.
Dum tamen Auguſtum caput objectare periclis
Non timet, heu! populos terret & ille ſuos.

This was put into *French*, by *Corneille*, thus.

Sur l'Eſcault eſtonné tu lances ta tempeſte,
Grand prince, & fais trembler par tout les ennemis;
Mais quand dans les perils tu hazardes ta teſte,
Tu fais trembler auſſi ceux, que Dieu t'a ſoubmis.

I CANNOT review, but remain,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

I AM deſired to ſend to *Paris* a Chriſtian Catechiſm in *Turkiſh*; but I know not where they are to be had.

SIR, *London, Oct.* 24, 1667.

SEEING public affairs require ſome ſuſpenſion of your favour of communicating your news to me, I muſt ſubmit (though I ſhould be angry with almoſt any other but of that nature) and ſhall only wiſh a ſpeedy removal of this impediment. In the mean time, be pleaſed to receive my humble thanks for the kindneſs of your laſt bill to Mr. *Lindſey*; for which I ſend the encloſed diſcharge to Mr. *Davis*, according to your order. The tranſcript of the account of the burning-glaſs being alſo come to my hands, and being preſently inſerted into my Tranſactions, I do by this very poſt ſend them to Sir *R. Moray*, and with them the particulars, both political and philoſophical, I received yeſterday from *Paris*, and other parts, ſcrupling to interrupt you with prolix letters, during the time of the extraordinary diverſions you have lately met with. But this one thing I cannot omit to acquaint you with, as a thing hardly ever attempted afore, *viz.* that one Mr. *Thompſon*, a perſon that is between a doctor and an apothecary, and hath the reputation of having done much good in this mortality, had the courage to open the body of one that died of the plague; the conſe-

quence

quence whereof was (as it was related to me by ſeveral, and, among them, by a very honeſt and intelligent merchant, who a month ſince was by this very *Thompſon* recovered of the ſame diſeaſe) that when he handled the viſcera, and had his hands embrued with the blood, he ſoon found one of them much benumbed; which made him diſpatch the faſter, and to go home to bed, taking ſuch medicine as he had provided and prepared for ſuch an event; and finding himſelf pretty well again the next day, he went abroad, but relapſed, and then apprehended himſelf in much more danger than afore; yet uſing his own remedies (which I hear are a powder, that is ſudorific, and an excellent cordial) did perfectly recover, and hath ever ſince viſited infected perſons with great ſucceſs. Enquiring whether he had obſerved any thing in that dangerous diſſection, I had this anſwer from the ſaid merchant, that he heard him affirm he had diſcovered ſome things, which, in due time, he would bring to light, looking upon them as very conſiderable in the theory of the plague, and uſeful for the cure thereof.

I SHALL conclude with a requeſt, that you would pleaſe to gratify my lord *Anneſley* with ſending the incloſed to my lady his mother, to whom I underſtand, by letter from his governor, he hath written ſeveral times, without hearing a word of return. I ſuppoſe her ladyſhip does viſit *Oxford* ſometimes, ſhe living ſo near it, or ſends frequently thither; by which means this note of mine may eaſily be conveyed to her. I ſuppoſe alſo that Mr. *Southwell* is where you are; and it will be ſtill an increaſe of your favours, to ſend the other letter, here annexed, to him, from,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

HENRY OLDENBURG.

I HAVE dated the diſcharge the ſame day I ſuppoſe the firſt Tranſactions will be printed at *Oxford*, and left a blank for the name of the printer, in caſe it ſhould not be Mr. *Davis*.

THE notice you received from Mr. *Williamſon*, concerning injections, I gueſs to be ſent him from *Hamburgh*; and then they are very likely to be the ſame with thoſe I received a good many months ſince, which I did ſhew you, and afterwards lent them to Dr. *Clerk*, who hath it ſtill. One Dr. *Major* is the author thereof.

SIR, *London, Nov.* 12, 1667.

I SHOULD be very glad to ſee you here upon many accounts, and ſome of them of a public nature; and then poſſibly you might alſo take an opportunity of beſpeaking reaſon to M. *Crook*. I do not well underſtand, by what you ſay of the Uſefulneſs, whether it be an encouragement to make an end of the *Latin* verſion of what remains to be tranſlated of the *Engliſh* book already in print or not. But am very much pleaſed to find, that you are about to communicate to the world the ſequel; concerning which I entreat you that you would not let us want that eſſay, which you ſay tends directly to the deſigns driven by the Royal Society, who are now continuing a way to do ſomething that may more nearly concern their perpetual eſtabliſhment.

WHAT you have commanded me on the behalf of Dr. *Beale* and Mr. *Colepreſſe*, I ſhall be very careful to perform. And Mr. *Glanvill*'s book I have ſent to Mr. *Hatherton* for you, according to your order.

DR. *Beale* hath lately ſent me ſome new barometrical obſervations, which are too long to inſert here, but may be thought proper enough to put into the Tranſactions of the next month; thoſe of this month being full already, and now in the preſs, whence they will come forth by the end of this week.

DR.

DR. *Lower* hath been making ſeveral trials amongſt us, of giving a dropſy to a dog in a very ſhort time, by tying up of the vena cava; which, it ſeems, hath given him matter enough to write a tract, that may, together with ſome other experiments, conduce much to the clearing up of the doctrine of Pathology. He, in conjunction with ſeveral others, are like to do philoſophy great ſervice by anatomical diſcoveries.

I FIND by letters from abroad, that the young prince of *Florence*, having left *Italy* to travel, is like to viſit *Germany*, *Holland*, and perhaps *England* too, and in doing the laſt, do honour to our Society, if Sir *Bernard Gaſcoigne*'s intelligence meet with no diſappointment.

THE particulars of the laſt *French* letters to me are,

1. *Les experiences de Florence ſeront bientôt achevées. Nos libraires en feront venir aſſurement.*

2. *Nous attendons ce que reſoudra l'Angleterre & la Suede. Les eſtats de Hollande ont pris quelques reſolutions importantes, qui ſont fort ſecretes. Ils ſe preparent à tout evenement.*

3. *L'electeur de Brandenbourg & les ducs de Lunenbourg ſeront dans les intereſts de l'empereur. Les princes du Rhin ſont pour nous, & particulierement l'eveſque de Munſter, qui à fait demanteler ſa ville capitale.*

4. *Les Eſpagnols ont encore eſte battus en Flanders, & ont perdu bien du monde.*

5. *Il n'y à pas d'apparence, que la paix ſe face dans l'eſtat, ou ſont les choſes. L'Europe va retomber dans une guerre, qui achevera de la conſommer & de la perdre.*

6. *Les Tartares ſont venus à 18 lieues de Cracovie.*

7. *Candie à eſte ſecouruë: neantmoins le grand Viſir ne l'abandonne pas. Il eſt à craindre, qu' avec le temps elle ne periſſe.*

FROM *Dantzick* I underſtand by a letter of Mr. *Hevelius*, that his cometography is very near finiſhed; and that he intends very ſhortly to ſend me by ſea ſome exemplars thereof; together with a farther account of not ordinary obſervations concerning the Succinum.

ANY competent aſſiſtance would, by God's bleſſing, enable me to bring from all parts of the world into *England*, as to a centre, whatever ingenuities, diſcoveries, obſervations and experiments lie ſcattered up and down every where. But no man that I ſee does effectually conſider this, which muſt needs overwhelm and oppreſs,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London*, *Nov.* 25, 1667.

I AM reſolved not to ſhew myſelf ungrateful for the excellent entertainment I received from you this night, firſt by your paper of the experiments of Light, ſent by coach, but not delivered till this very evening; next, by your letter, referring to the ſame, and coming to my hands an hour after the ſaid paper. I take a folio ſheet, to try whether I can in ſome meaſure be revenged of you, and fall to work this very evening, becauſe I much doubt I ſhall want leiſure to-morrow.

FIRST then, receive my moſt hearty private thanks both for thoſe extraordinary communications, and for the liberty you are pleaſed to allow me of diffuſing them by the preſs, for their farther improvement by philoſophical men in all parts. Theſe private thanks of mine, I am ſure, will ſoon be followed by the public ones of the Society, when I ſhall have expoſed them there, as I mean to do, God willing, on *Thurſday* next. And ſince I have your leave of making them public (which certainly will be a ſingular gratification to the learned and curious) I ſhall endeavour to do it

both in *Engliſh* and *Latin* in the ſame month, or as to the *Latin*, ſoon after. I deſire only your favour, to direct me a little more particularly about the diſtinct title page you would have it publiſhed with; as alſo to enrich me, with all convenient ſpeed, with the reſt of the experiments of this ſubject, and thoſe other experimental things you mention you had to add, but could not ſend them by the laſt; becauſe I am now ready to compoſe the next month's Tranſactions, and would by no means have this part of yours omitted therein, they being to be read in the Society ſo ſoon, and the uſurpation of others to be timely prevented. I long alſo to ſee that catalogue of the new way of ſealing of glaſſes, which I hope I ſhall at laſt find the underſtanding of, by the contumacy of my attention. And this, if you thought fit to give way, would alſo much pleaſe the Society for another meeting entertainment.

ON *Thurſday* next, God willing, a report will be made of the good ſucceſs of the firſt trial of tranſfuſion practiſed on a man, which was by order of the Society, and the approbation of a number of phyſicians, performed on *Saturday* laſt in *Arundel* houſe, in the preſence of many ſpectators, among whom were Mr. *Howard* and both his ſons, the biſhop of *Saliſbury*, four or five phyſicians, ſome parliament men, *&c.* by the management and operation of Dr. *Lower* and Dr. *King*, the latter of whom performed the chief part with great dexterity, and with ſo much eaſe to the patient, that he made not the leaſt complaint, nor ſo much as any grimace during the whole time of the operation; in which the blood of a young ſheep, to the quantity of about eight or nine ounces by conjecture, was tranſmitted into the great vein of the right arm, after the man had let out ſome ſix or ſeven ounces of his own blood. All which was done by the method of Dr. *King*'s, which I publiſhed in Num. 20. of the Tranſactions, without any change at all of it, ſave only in the ſhape of one of the ſilver pipes, for more conveniency. Having let out, before the transfuſion, into a porringer, ſo much of the ſheep's blood, as would run out in about a minute (which amounted to twelve ounces) to direct us as to the quantity to be transfuſed into the man, he, when he ſaw that florid arterial blood in the porringer, was ſo well pleaſed with it, that he took ſome of it upon a knife, and taſted it, and finding it of a good reliſh, he went the more courageouſly to its tranſmiſſion into his veins, taking a cup or two of ſack before, and a glaſs of wormwood wine and a pipe of tobacco after the operation, which no more diſordered him, both by his own confeſſion, and by appearance to all byſtanders, than it did any of thoſe that were in the room with him. The pipe being taken out of the man, the blood of the ſheep ran a very free ſtream, to aſſure the ſpectators of an uninterrupted courſe of blood. The patient found himſelf very well upon it, his pulſe better than before, and ſo his appetite. His ſleep good, his body as ſoluble as uſual, it being obſerved, that the ſame day of his operation he had three or four ſtools, as he uſed to have before. This morning our preſident (who by very preſſing buſineſs could not be preſent in *Arundel* houſe) and I, went to ſee him pretty early, and found him a bed very well, as he aſſured us, and more compoſed, as his hoſt affirmed, than he had been before, he being looked upon as a very freakiſh and extravagant man; who hath ſtudied at *Cambridge*, and is ſaid to be a batchelor of divinity, called *Arthur Coga*, an indigent perſon, and receiving a guinea for undergoing the experiment; which reward maketh him willing to have it repeated upon him, wherein he will eaſily be complied with, and that, I think, before the end of this very week, if circumſtances ſhall perſuade it. But I doubt I do here *actum agere*, and trouble you with the repetition of what Dr. *King* hath related in this annexed letter, which he deſired me to convey to you.

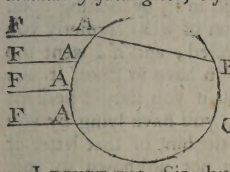
SINCE my laſt, I have received a packet of books from *Hamburgh*, *viz.* the *Prodromus Hiſtoriæ Literariæ*. (after the model of Sir *Francis Bacon*) begun by Dr. *Lambecius*,

cius, now hiſtoriographer and bibliothecarius to the emperor: then the *Sarepta Matheſii*, and *Jungius*'s Logic; which are at your ſervice, when you ſhall be returned to *London*.

I RECEIVED alſo very lately a letter from one of the new correſpondents, an excellent mathematician, *Francis Renatus Sluſius*, at *Liege*, the author of the celebrated *Meſolabe*, who ſends me ſeveral particulars, whereof I ſhall preſume to trouble you with a couple, and communicate a third to Dr. *Wallis*, as moſt proper for his examination. Theſe two are concerning his ſenſe of our royal inſtitution, and a certain deduction from the *Carteſian* hypotheſis of a rainbow. I ſhall give you both in his own words:

1. *Exprimere verbis non poſſum, quàm mihi jucundum acciderit noſſe ex literis tuis Regiæ Societatis inſtitutum. Dignum ſanè, cui quicquid eſt uſquam eruditorum applaudat, & quod communibus ſtudiis promoveat. Ejus enim virtute futurum exiſtimo, ut ſcientia naturalis pomœria (quod illuſtriſſimuſque Baconus optabat & enixè ſatagebat) in immenſum proferantur. Sed res, ut arbitror, non unius ætatis eſt, & ſemper ſupererit, in quo ſe exerceat grata poſteritas, ſi iiſdem ſtudiis teneatur. Non vanè enim mihi tecum augurari poſſe videor, hanc ſocietatem eſſe perennaturam. Apud nos, ut liberè tecum agam, frigent hæc ſtudia, & viri docti, juriſprudentia, vel aliis ſcientiis, quæ vulgo magis notæ ſunt, operam impendunt. Sunt quidem nonnulli chymiæ ſtudioſi, ſed vel medicinæ vel lucri cauſâ. Nemo, quod ſciam, naturæ arcana ſcrutatur, ut ea tantùm cognoſcat, ſi quos tamen in poſterum reperire me contigerit, eos ad tam præclaros conatus adjuvandos hortari non intermittam. Me quod attinet, pauca omnino promittere poſſum, variis curis diſtractus, ſed ſi quid occurrerit (neque enim ſpem omnem objeci) optimâ fide tibi me relaturum polliceor.*

Leve eſt, quod addam in anteceſſum, licet fortaſſe hîc adſcribi non mereatur, cum non niſi ex hypotheſi verum ſit: non tamen ingratum accidet, ut ſpero, ſi hactenus non animadverteris. Si celeberrimi Carteſii doctrina circa iridem & refractionum menſuram admittatur, facilè experimento ſciri poteſt, dato liquore quolibet, angulus ſemidiametri iridis ex illo orituræ; ut ab annis bene multis oſtendi. Opponatur enim ſoli globus liquoris dati (vitro incluſus, nam hoc ſenſibilem differentiam non faciet) & retrò conſideretur pars illuminata: hæc tot gradus circuli maximi ejuſdem globi, bifariam ipſam ſecantis, complectetur, quot conſtat angulus quæſitus.



In figura hîc adjuncta ſint radii ſolis paralleli FA, FA, &c. incidentes in globum, cujus ſectio per circulum maximum ſit ABC, qui refracti conveniant omnes intra ſpatium BC; erit arcus BC tot graduum, quot angulus ſemidiametri iridis, nempe 42. circiter, in aqua communi, ſecundùm Carteſii tabulas; quibus tamen, ut hoc obiter adjungam, non eſt opus; poteſt enim arcus ille geometricè determinari, & quidem per locum planum.

I DOUBT not, Sir, but you will communicate theſe particulars to Dr. *Wallis*, as I believe he will not fail to ſhew you his.

I MUST haſten to annex my foreign ſtate news, *viz.*

Les Hollandois ne ſçavent où ils en ſont, & ont de la peine à prendre parti, & à ſe reſourdre, avec qui ils traiteront, ou avec les Suedois, ou avec l'electeur de Brandebourg. Il y en à qui ſont d'avis de faire des levées, & d'avoir quarante ou cinquante mille hommes pour la conſervation de leur places frontieres & de leur voiſinage: mais les autres provinces ne ſont pas de cet avis là.

Les Eſpagnols font les fiers: mais ils trouveront à qui parler, & auront bien de la peine à empeſcher la perte des Pais Bas. Les princes d'Allemagne ne ſongent qu'à eux, & ne feront rien, s'ils ny trouvent leur compte (and who does otherwiſe?) *A la fin ils periront tous, & dum ſinguli pugnant, univerſi vincuntur. Ils le meritent. Il n'y à que le roy, qui ſache agir & regner.* (This is right *French*.)

La bruit court, que les Portugais ne ſont pas eloignez de faire la paix avec l'Eſpagne, ne la pouvant jamais faire en une conjecture plus heureuſe pour eux.

AT the end this correſpondent intimates to me, that that excellent perſon, Monſieur *Carcavi*, (who, he ſaith, is preſident of the new experimental academy at *Paris*) hath expreſſed a deſire to entertain a correſpondence with me. Which certainly I ought to embrace with all readineſs and particular acknowledgments. I ſee my paper fails me, though I could fetch another ſheet, and ſcribble it full, if it were not an hour paſt midnight, nor I to riſe to-morrow early. This releaſes you from the troubleſome pen of,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

How large and uſeful a philoſophical trade could I derive, had I but any competent aſſiſtance?

SIR, *London, Dec.* 3, 1667.

SINCE the Society applauded ſo much, as they did at their laſt meeting, the experiments of light contained in your firſt paper (the ſecond being then not yet come to my hands, as now it is) you will, I hope, reform that thought of yours, which looked upon my reſentments of it as complimental. At their next meeting they will ſee, God permitting, that ſecond part I have ſince received and peruſed, highly ſuitable to the firſt, and therefore ſure to meet with the like eſtimation. I am very glad it is come ſo ſeaſonably, and juſt upon the order, which laſt *Thurſday* was made, of trying the experiment with compreſſed air, ſince it will appear to them, by your ſecond papers, that you are beforehand in that trial. I ſhall be very punctual in obſerving your orders about the liſts, and the ſet of queries about ſhining wood, and the ways of ſealing up glaſſes exhauſted of air, and all ſuch other particulars as you enjoin me ſilence of. I thought indeed, and am confirmed in it, by looking upon your letter of *Octob.* 17, that I had permiſſion to make mention of what formerly you had acquainted the Society with, concerning acid liquors injected; and if I went too far, in mentioning the clauſe about the anatomical matters you have in ſtore, it was my reſpect to you that carried me, and the conſideration, that if you ſhould perhaps be prevented by others in the publication of any of the ſame, you have lying by you the general intimation I gave of ſuch matters, according to the hint of that letter of yours, might the rather incline others to believe they were not unknown to you. However, I ſhall eſteem it a favour, when I chance to fail in exceeding my commiſſions, or the indulgencies allowed me (which I believe I ſhall be very ſeldom guilty of) if you would reſerve the reprimand for our perſonal meetings.

I HAD indeed prepared for enriching the Tranſactions of this month with your experiments of Light; but ſince you will have them deferred to the next, I am to acquieſce; being, mean time, very deſirous to ſee the liſt of your experiments tried in the ſealed glaſſes exhauſted of air, and the methods uſed therein; which you may reſt aſſured ſhall be kept as ſecret as you can deſire.

ON *Saturday* laſt (St. *Andrew*'s day) we had a very numerous meeting at *Arundel* houſe, never ſo great a one before; we being about threeſcore, and of them about fifty at dinner, for which his majeſty ſent in a doe, as Mr. *Howard* another; which I doubt will prove precedents for ever after, and thoſe not likely to be liable to diſpute, as

as ſome are in a high place. You, Sir, are one of thoſe that were then elected into the new council; and the reſt are:

Lord *Aſhley*	Sir *George Ent*
Lord *Brereton*	Mr. *Thomas Neile* (that married the rich widow.)
Mr. *Charles Howard*	Mr. *Hayes*
Sir *John Lowther*	Mr. *Creed.*
Sir *Philip Carteret*	

The eleven that are continued,

Lord *Brounker*	Sir *R. Moray*	Mr. *Hoſkins*
Biſhop of *Saliſbury*	Sir *P. Neile*	Mr. *Colwall*
Mr. *Henry Howard*	Sir *Anthony Morgan*	*Oldenburg.*
Mr. *Erſkin*	Dr. *Wilkins*	

WE hope we ſhall ſhortly enjoy your company. I have diſcourſed with M. *Martyn* about the printing the principal matters of the Tranſactions in *Latin*, with a ſmall letter, for a pocket-book, that the *Dutch* may not be able to print upon him with advantage. This he ſeems to like well of, and ready to undertake. I want Sir *R. Moray* to deal with him about the conſideration I think I deſerve for the labour the verſion will coſt me.

I HAVE lately received very many letters and papers, ſtored with philoſophical matters, from *Antwerp*, *Dantzick*, *Sweden*, *Poland*, the *Bermudas*, and *Holland*. I am offered from *Antwerp*, what quantity I pleaſe to have of the ludus; only I am to ſend thither, in exchange, the philoſophical and medicinal books that have been lately printed in *England*. I ſhall not refuſe that offer, you may eaſily believe, ſuppoſing that thoſe perſons that deſire to ſhare in it, will not be unwilling to refund my expences. Mr. *Norwood* at the *Bermudas* is certainly a ſolid, knowing and ſober man. It is he from whom I have the communications come from that place; which you may command when you come to *London*, they being too large for a letter, as alſo are thoſe that were ſent me from the other places: only I muſt intimate to you, that among the papers that come from the *Baltick*, I find one, written by a phyſician of *Dantzick*, relating that there they have cured the *lues venerea*, and convulſions, by injecting liquors into veins; which I intend, God willing, to read at our next meeting, to occaſion the Society to urge Dr. *Clerke*'s publication of his experiments of that nature, though they come ſhort of ſuch effects. As far as I ſee, both thoſe experiments that met with ſuch difficulty and contradiction at firſt (I mean that of infuſion and transfuſion) may at laſt prove very beneficial to the health of men. The perſon that hath the ſheeps blood in his veins, is ſtill very well, and like to continue ſo. If we durſt believe himſelf, who is flatterouſly given, he is much better than he was before, as he tells us in a *Latin* account he brought in to the Society.

STATE news from abroad I received but little this week. What I had was this.

Voſtre chancelier ſe ſauvera à la fin. (This is ambiguous.) *On ne parle plus de paix. Les Suedois doivent envoyer à une aſſemblée, qu'on doit faire à Brunſwick. Ils deliberent encore auſſi bien, que meſſieurs les Eſtats. Juſques a cette heure ils n'ont encore rien reſolu. Candie n'eſt pas ſi bien qu'on l'a cru. Nous ne ſçaurons rien des affaires que dans deux mois, tout le monde negociant & prenant ſes meſures.*

THE houſe of commons ſat yeſterday about the grand affair, till four at night; and then came to the vote:

"THAT the refuſing of the Houſe of Lords to commit the earl of *Clarendon*, at "the accuſation of the Commons of *England*, is an obſtruction to parliamentary pro-"ceedings (ſome add, and to juſtice) and of dangerous conſequence."

WHAT

WHAT this conſequence will prove, and how they will further proceed in this matter, is hard to predict to him, who is,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

I DO not write this week to Dr. *Wallis*, becauſe I could not ſhew his letter, as he would have me, to my lord *Brounker*, by reaſon of his lordſhip's abſence from *London*, he being now at *Chatham*, and like to continue there this fortnight, employed in paying off ſhips. Mean time, my humble ſervice to the doctor, I beſeech you.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 10, 1667.

THE letter-carrier, inſtead of delivering your and other inland letters yeſternight, delivered them not till this day in the afternoon, when they found me at home, but in ſuch company as were pleaſed to ſtay till a good while after candle-light; which hath deprived me of the ſatisfaction I deſigned to allow myſelf in converſing more largely with you, than now I ſhall be able to do for want of time. In ſhort, I am firſt to acquaint you with the ſecond thanks of the Society, for your ſecond entertainment of them with your rare experiments about light. I am ſure they will be very glad to receive that third you intimate to me in your laſt. Next, you will pleaſe to accept of my humble acknowledgments for the favours you particularly deſign me, in communicating, for my private ſatisfaction, your queries about ſhining wood and ſhining fiſhes, together with the experiments relating thereto. I confeſs I think the time long, till I ſee the experiments tried in the ſealed receivers, imagining they muſt be no leſs inſtructive than delightful. Your ſervant certainly forgot to mention to me a book to be directed to M. *Hook* from *Herringman*. It will come time enough yet, if the bookſeller be but in a line or two written to about it. I think I mentioned in my former ſome of the heads of the particulars lately ſent me from the *Baltick* by *Hevelius*, *&c. viz.* of the ſurpriſing effects of injections into veins; of obſervations of cold, amber, pot-aſhes, hints for new materials for optic glaſſes, *&c.* That part which concerns the injections, was read at our laſt aſſembly, and containing an account of three perſons it had been tried upon, whereof two received great benefit, but the third died (though that was by the perſon's own neglect) a certain phyſician then preſent (elſe a learned and ingenious man) was to my great trouble ſo precipitate as to ſay, that he would engage that that one, *viz.* with the ill ſucceſs, was only true, but the other two both falſe. I could not but take him afterwards aſide, and repreſent to him how he would reſent it, if he ſhould communicate upon his own knowledge an unuſual experiment to the curious at *Dantzick*, and they in public brand it with the mark of falſhood: that ſuch expreſſions in ſo public a place, and in ſo mixed an aſſembly, would certainly prove very deſtructive to all philoſophical commerce, if the curious abroad ſhould be once informed how their ſymbolas were received at the Royal Society. On *Thurſday* next the transfuſion, which was omitted at our laſt meeting, for want of fit preparations, is ordered to be made, and will doubtleſs have a crowd of ſpectators; it being diſcourſed of in moſt companies one reſorts to.

THE foreign news of this week are:

1. *Les Hollandois ne veulent pas s'attirer la haine de la France, ny faire la deſpence de la guerre, comme la Suede, Brandeburg & Luneburg ſe l'eſtoient imaginé. Si le roy ſe veut contenter de la ſatisfaction, qu'il leur a fait propoſer, ils contraindront l'Eſpagne à luy faire raiſon. Cependant ils levent des troupes, & traiteront avec la Suede, à fin de n'eſtre pas ſurpris.*

ſurpris. Ainſi nous ſerons maitres de la Flandre l'année qui vient, les Eſpagnols ne faiſants rien, & l'empereur n'agiſſant pas luy meſme; ils ſont inſenſibles à leur maux, & il ſemble, qu'ils ont perdu le ſens.

2. *L'Abbé Roſpiglioſi, neveu du pape, a fait des preſens magnifiques. Jamais pape n'a tant depenſé pour ſes parens que celuy-cy. L'Abbé Le Tellier eſt fort conſideré à Rome, d'où il reviendra au mois de Mars.*

3. THERE has been ſo great a hurricane in *Auguſt* laſt about our *Leeward-Iſlands*, *Mevis*, St. *Chriſtophers*, *&c.* that it hath ruined all the houſes both of our and the *French* plantations, and the caſtles alſo, and likewiſe deſtroyed all the ſugar-works and the proviſions on the ground, inſomuch that our people have ſent to the governor of *Barbados*, that unleſs they be forthwith ſupplied with victuals, they muſt, if they will not ſtarve, abandon the iſlands. I have no more time left me, than to ſay, what really I am,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 16, 1667.

THE particulars ſent from *Dantzick* are ſo various and large, that I know not where to begin, nor how to redeem ſo much time as to tranſcribe them. I think you will be much better pleaſed to have them read to you, when you ſhall be returned to *London*; and then you will alſo find with more ſatisfaction divers things, wherein you are deſervedly mentioned with honour, tranſmitted from the ſame parts. I am ſure no man imagines what ſtore of papers and writings paſs to and from me in a week, from time to time; which I muſt rid myſelf of, without any aſſiſtance. I have no leſs at preſent than thirty correſpondents, partly domeſtic, partly foreign. Many of them I am not only to write to, but alſo to do buſineſs for; which requires much time to enquire after ſuch particulars, and diſpatch ſuch buſineſs as they deſire, if I mean to be gratified reciprocally in ſuch things as I beſpeak of them. Beſides my conſtant attendance on the meetings of the Society and Council, and preſerving what is ſaid and done there, and giving order to have all regiſtered, and reviewing all the entries; ſoliciting alſo the performances of the manifold taſks recommended and undertaken by the members of the Society; and diſtributing and ſending abroad ſuch directions and enquiries, as are thought conducive to advance our deſign, *&c.* I confeſs I extend my patience as far as I can; but I am afraid I have ſtretched it too far already, that it will break, unleſs ſomething be done to fortify it in ſome meaſure, which I find not that any of thoſe, who are upon the place, and cannot but ſee my daily labours and toil, are in the leaſt ſolicitous of; though ſome of them are forced to acknowledge, even in my hearing, that no man in *England* would do what I do, upon the terms I go away with.

SIR, pardon me for this ſally; I am confident you do not much blame me for this complaint, which I dare lodge in the boſom of ſo good and noble a friend, that in great meaſure knows my work and my condition, and, upon occaſion, repreſents it too. I have ſome ground to believe, that there are perſons who think the Tranſactions bring me in a ſufficient revenue. But I will make it out to any man, that I never received above forty pounds a year upon their account (and that is little more than my houſe-rent.) And now by a new agreement I have been obliged to make, I ſhall not bring it to above thirty-ſix pounds in a year at moſt. How ſtrangely therefore I muſt needs ſhift for my ſubſiſtence, and with what diſtraction I muſt perform my tedious work, let any ſober man judge.

SIR,

SIR, I ſhall not fail, God permitting, to convey the *Logica Hamburgenſis* to you, as you have directed; and you will find ſome books taken notice of in the Tranſactions of this month (whereof ſome are to be ſent away this day to *Oxford*) which I believe you have not met with before, except it be, perhaps, the *Hiſtoriæ Litterariæ Prodromus Lambecii*; which, I hear, ſome very few perſons have ſeen ere this. I ſhall be very glad to ſee what you are pleaſed to intend me farther, in reference to the queries about ſhining wood, which I received on *Wedneſday* laſt, and was much pleaſed with ſome of your experiments upon that ſubject, which could not be read the week before, were read at our laſt meeting, and gave great ſatisfaction, with expreſs order to redouble to you the ſolemn thanks of the company; who have not yet made any trials of that kind, having of late been engaged in abundance of other things, brought before them from within and without, and in the experiments of transfuſion, which on *Thurſday* laſt was repeated upon the ſame man, in the preſence of a ſtrange crowd, both of foreigners and domeſtics, the recipient enduring the operation with as little concern as before; and finding himſelf at preſent very well in health, though ſtocked with a far greater quantity this time than before; which made him a day or two after the operation a little feveriſh; though that may be juſtly imputed to his diſordering himſelf by intemperate drinking of wine.

I HOPE I ſhall not omit to ſuggeſt, what is neceſſary for the clearing thoſe circumſtances in your experiments of light, you are concerned about; yet without giving any hint of that particular, which relateth to the making of ſome of thoſe experiments in ſealed receivers.

FROM *Caën* I lately received the following account about the diſſection of an owl's eye.

En faiſant la diſſection de l'oeil d'un hibou, on a remarqué, que la partie lucide de la cornée eſt fort prominente; qu' en la regardant de travers, on voit une partie du Chriſtalline; qu'elle eſt couverte obliquement de l'adnata, qui s'avance plus ſur la cornée vers l'angle interieure que vers l'exterieure; que cette adnata eſt fort dure & preſque de ſubſtance cornée, comme à tous les autres oiſeaux, autour de l'oeil: mais elle eſt fort molaſſe & tranſparente au fonds de l'oeil, c'eſt à dire, dans la partie diametralement oppoſée à la partie lucide. Elle eſt tranſparente à tel point, que l'ayant nottoyée des chairs des muſcles, on y voit les eſpeces renverſées ſe prendre fort diſtinctement; mais cela luy eſt commun avec les yeux de preſque tous les oiſeaux, & de pluſieurs autres animaux. Ce qu'il y a icy de particulier, c'eſt cette prominence extraordinaire de la partie anterieure de la cornee; l'humeur aqueuſe eſt en aſſez grande quantité & fort gluante, & l'humeur vitrié en petite quantité & fort fluide, contre l'ordinaire des autres animaux, dont l'humeur aqueuſe eſt en mediocre quantité & fluide comme de l'eau, & l'humeur vitree eſt en abondance & fort conſiſtente. L'humeur chriſtalline eſt preſque ſpherique, les deux ſegmens de globe, qui le compoſent, ſont egaux contre l'ordinaire des autres animaux, dont le chriſtallin eſt plus plat à la partie anterieure & plus boſſu dans la poſterieure. Son iris ne ſe reſſerre point à la maniere des autres animaux, & cela eſtant, il ne faut pas s'eſtonner, que le grand jour, dont nous nous parens en reſerrant l'iris de noſtre oeil, bleſſe le chabuant; joint que la groſſeur de ſon chriſtallin fait une trop forte refraction à cauſe de ſa figure.

I MUST ſtop here, adding only, that I am,

SIR, your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

P. S. SIR, I had almoſt forgot to deſire you, that you would pleaſe timely to give me directions about the title to your Experiments concerning light and air; and whether I am to expect any additions to them: for I intend, God permitting, to print the Tranſactions for the next month ſo early, as that they may, if poſſible, be abroad the firſt week in *January*.

6 SIR,

SIR, I entreat you to oblige me, by preſenting my humble ſervice to Dr. *Wallis*, whoſe excuſe I beg, for not doing it myſelf by an anſwer to his laſt; which I hope to do next week, God willing. I know, Sir, you will communicate to him the philoſophical part of this paper, if you think fit.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 24, 1667.

THE favour of your laſt letter, and your excellent both poſtſcript and appendix, came yeſternight to my hands in one hour. Now I have received ſo full inſtructions concerning them, I ſhall haſten them, God willing, to be publiſhed, as ſoon as thoſe feſtivals, ſo much generally abuſed to idleneſs and irreligion, are paſt; expecting mean while that experiment you intimate to have made for confirmation of the laſt in the poſtſcript.

SIR, ſince you have done me the honour of addreſſing theſe noble experiments to me, ſome words of your papers being alſo directed to a particular perſon more than once, I think, you will permit me to fill up the two blanks thus:

MADE by the honourable *Robert Boyle*, and by him addreſſed to the publiſher; and further communicated to the Royal Society, before whom they were read at their public meeting *December* 5, with much applauſe.

THE Society ſhall not meet till *January* 2, at which time, I believe, they will receive a good account of a pretty hermaphrodite, now in *London*, which was lately viſited by Dr. *Allen* and myſelf, and viewed at our leiſure, having the parts of both ſexes very diſtinct and perfect enough. I think I ſhall be deſired to publiſh it, which if I do, I ſhall do in *Latin*.

I RECEIVED in my laſt letter from *Paris* a ſhort relation of a mare, that caſt a horſe-colt, and two hours after, a mule, doubtleſs by a ſuperfœtation. The ſame letter tells me poſitively, that the *Florentine* experiments are now printed, but not yet ſent abroad: but that thoſe two conſiderable books, *De vi Percuſſionis*, of *Borelli* the *Italian*, and *De Myologia*, of *Steno*, are on the way for me, by the ſingular favour of Monſieur *Auzout*, (to whom they were ſent by P. *Leopold* himſelf, who ſent two couples more of them to two other philoſophers at *Paris*, no more being come out of *Italy* as yet, if I am not miſinformed) parted with to ſatisfy my curioſity, which, it ſeems, he found by ſeveral of my letters lately written to my ordinary correſpondent at *Paris*.

IF theſe *Pariſians* miſrelate not, there hath been freſhly made in that town an experiment of transfuſion on a madman, with a ſurpriſing ſucceſs; which I ſhall give you in my author's own words, *viz.*

Nous avons fait la transfuſion ces jours paſſez ſur un fol de la derniere extravagance, qui couroit les ruës tout nud, & qui faiſoit compaſſion à tout le monde. Nous luy transfuſe du ſang de veau par 2 fois differentes, & apres la derniere, qui fut plus ample, & en preſence de 8 medecins capables, il fit paroitre quelques emotions, qui furent ſuivies d'un profond aſſoupiſſement pendant toute la nuit, au revueil duquel il donna tout teſmoignage d'un ſens fort raſſis, & comme il apprit, que nous eſtions au temps du jubilé, il demanda à ſe confeſſer, & ſon confeſſeur le trouva ſi raiſonnable & ſi exact en toutes choſes, qu'il jugea à propos de la laiſſer approcher de la communion. Nous ne ſçavons pas encore, quel en ſera le ſucces. Je vous en apprenderay le detail au plus-toſt.

THIS is confirmed from another hand of the ſame place, with very little variation: which, together with an account of the preſent condition of the former patients of this operation, I ſhall be obliged to inſert into the next Tranſactions; which, I think, will be all I ſhall have room for that month; your papers about Light being ſo rich and ample, that they will abundantly ſtore me for three ſheets in print. I hope I ſhall

take that care of ordering all what concerns the right publiſhing of them, that you will find no fault with me in that particular.

MONSIEUR *de Launay* hath tranſmitted to me his printed Eſſay *du Lieu, de Temps, & du Vuide*, wherein I find great acuteneſs and much learning, clearing up thoſe three particulars (ſo nice and perplexed) with more ſatisfaction to me, than I have met with elſewhere; and falling in cloſe, yet civilly enough, with *Des Cartes*, and diſcuſſing his notion *de corpore & vacuo* thoroughly, if I much miſtake not.

I AM like to enter into a correſpondence with the excellent *Carcavy*, a great mathematician, and one that knows moſt of the intelligent and curious men in the world, his *French* majeſty's bibliothecarius, and the chief director of the new experimental academy at *Paris*. He deſires of me, for the compleating of the library he hath charge of, to ſend him a catalogue of all the conſiderable books, whether hiſtorical, political, philoſophical, eccleſiaſtical, that have been printed in *England* theſe laſt dozen years, whether in *Engliſh* or *Latin*. I muſt confeſs, that I can meet with none of our ſtationers here, that can give me a ſatisfactory account hereof. Methinks the *Oxonian* library receives an exemplar of every good book that is printed in *England*. If the ſub-bibliothecarius could be prevailed with to cauſe ſuch a catalogue of the twelve laſt years to be made, I know it would be a kindneſs to that gentleman, and provoke him to good communications.

To annex ſome ſtate news, my friend at *Paris* writeth thus:

1. *On mande, que la reyne d'Eſpagne a accepté la mediation du pape; qu'elle agree la ville d'Aix la Chapelle, où les plenipotentiaires ſe doivent trouver. Elle a nommé Caſtel-Rodrigo pour s'y trouver de ſa part. On eſcrit de Rome, que les Eſpagnols faiſoient ſemblant de ne vouloir pas la paix, quoy qu'en effet ils la ſouhaitent.*

2. *Les Eſtats de Hollande ont preſté le ſerment pour la ſuppreſſion de gouverneur de province.*

3. *L'electeur de Baviere ſuivra les ſentimens de l'empire, & les Suedois auſſi apparemment. On n'eſt pas trop ſatisfait des ducs de Lunenbourg.*

4. *On ne preſſe pas encore les levées icy; neantmoins on ſe diſpoſe à tout evenement. Le roy eſt en eſtat de reſiſter à tous les ennemis, qu'on luy ſuſcitera. Les Hollandois ne ſe declarent point contre luy. Au contraire, ils ſont d'advis d'obliger les Eſpagnols de luy donner ſatisfaction. Nous ſçaurons ce qui arrivera de toutes ces negociations devant la fin de Mars.*

5. *Le frere du roy de Portugal a desja commencé d'agir. La reyne eſt encore dans le couvent. On le marie avec ce nouveau roy ou regent.*

I MUST end with the paper, after I ſhall have told you, that Dr. *Beale* writes me word, that Mr. *Baxter* inveighs in his book, written to aſſert the reaſons of the Chriſtian religion, againſt the corpuſcularian (called by him the ſomatical) philoſophy, and traduces it, as if it ſupplanted our future eſtate. This our good friend, who preſents his humble ſervice to you, would fain have obviated and rightly ſtated, to prevent ill effects, like to follow the popular diſcourſing of a popular man. I am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR,

I MUST beg your excuſe for not ſeeing Dr. *Sydenham*, who hath been the only man that I hear of, who, when I was ſhut up, thought fit (God knows without cauſe) to rail againſt me, and that was ſuch a coward, as afterwards to diſown it, though undeniable. I confeſs, that with ſo mean and unmoral a ſpirit I cannot well aſſociate.

SIR,

SIR, *London, Dec.* 31, 1667.

I CAN assure you of the validity of my warrant for what I said formerly concerning the title of your experiments; though the genius and custom of the Society, touching the making public their judgment about any matter, and their nicety in it, may be a second consideration.

I HAVE received your postscript, and the conclusion of it. I find it will take up three full printed sheets, if I publish all at once, what you have been pleased to communicate; I would propose to refer the agreement and disagreement between a live coal and shining wood, till the next month; because I have been often told, that variety of arguments is expected in these philosophical Occurrences. I confess, I think it long to see those aerial experiments you mention as discovering more observables in that element. I do religiously observe your injunctions about the precautioned sealed paper you lately sent me. If I hear by your next, that you intend to stay yet any time at *Oxford*, I shall send you monsieur *De Launay*'s essay of Place, Time, and Vacuum.

THE intimation you give me about taking notice in the *Latiniſed* Transactions of some particulars concerning some of your books, shall take care of, God willing.

I FIND by the last *Parisian* letters, which I received since my last to you, that that madman is relapsed, and pisseth blood, supposed to proceed from too large a transfusion.

I AM in extraordinary haste at this time, which maketh me annex only the particulars of the state news, that came by the last post, *viz.*

1. *Messieurs les Estats doivent envoyer monsieur Van Beuning en France en qualité d'ambassadeur extraordinaire, il demandera une suspension jusques à ce que la paix soit faite, ce qu'on luy refusera apparemment. L'electeur de Brandebourg envoye trois de ses ministres, qui ne feront pas grand chose.*

2. *Il y a bien de l'apparence, que la paix ne se fera pas. La revolution arrivée en Portugal est tout à fait en nostre faveur. On parle qu' à Naples il y a des mescontentemens. Nous serons assez heureux pour en voir par tout, & cependant on avancera en Flandres, & petit à petit on estendra bien loin les frontiers du royaume. Il n'y a personne de s'opposer à nos forces, qui seront considerables, quoy qu'on puisse dire.*

3. *Le conseil d'Espagne n'est pas bien uni, & il semble de la maniere, dont on agit en ce païs là, que les Espagnols ayent perdu le sens. La France profitera de tous ces avantages là, & rendra inutiles tous les desseins de ses ennemis. Vous verrez à la campagne, qui vient, la verité de ce que je vous predis.*

SIR, I humbly thank you for your favour in inquiring after the books for monsieur *Carcavy*. I have got catalogues for some few years of those twelve that are desired, *viz.* for 57, 58, 63. Those catalogues that were kept in the Stationers-Hall, they tell me, are burned. I must very abruptly subscribe, what I really am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful servant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, much happiness to you with this new year, and to all our common friends at *Oxford*.

SIR, *London, Jan.* 7, 1667-8.

I CANNOT but humbly thank you for returning to me with so much speed my late letter, together with the emendations. I find since, to my trouble, that these holidays are so much turned into drinking-days, that this month's Transactions will

come out, at leaſt one week later than was intended, when I gave you the trouble of the forementioned letter. I received, four or five days ago, a book, made by *Van Helmont* (which, I doubt, will prove no great commendation to it) entitled, *Alphabetum Naturæ*, in the *German* tongue, though it be alſo printed in *Latin*; of which edition an exemplar, formerly ſent over for me, miſcarried at ſea, and are no more copies to be had in *Holland* at preſent, though I hope to procure ſome from *Germany* in time, if they be thought worth ſending for. It pretends to make out, that the very figures of the *Hebrew* alphabet do repreſent the motions and configurations of the mouth and tongue, *&c.* requiſite to frame ſuch ſounds, as make thoſe letters; attributing more therein to the characters of the *Hebrew* alphabet, than to thoſe of any other. By ſchemes it exhibits the ſeveral poſtures and figures of the tongue, as paint the very letters. And there is alledged an example of a quite deaf and dumb man, who by theſe principles was made to anſwer to every thing that was ſlowly ſpoken to him, in the ſpace of three weeks. Of which, and the other particulars contained in this book, I am ſolicited to give a full account in the Tranſactions, now a printing.

MR. *Hook* brought in lately, at the Society's meeting, a contrivance for diſcovering the various preſſure of the air at ſea, thereby to foretel approaching ſtorms. If he did not acquaint you with it before this, I think I may take the liberty to do it, if you ſhall command it, the thing being made public in ſo public a place.

I HEAR from *Paris*, that monſieur *Steno* hath written a treatiſe *De Cerebro*, as Dr. *Willis* hath done, and that it will be printed ere long.

THE philoſophers at *Caen* find, that their ſalt-water, being made ſweet with little charge and in great quantties, hath *quelque gouſt de fumier*, which yet they hope to correct, intending thereupon to give it to beaſts firſt, to try its wholſomeneſs, before they give it to men.

THE madman, who found ſo notable a change by the transfuſion, I think I told you of, to have been lately experimented at *Paris*, is ſomewhat relapſed, and piſſeth blood; perhaps from too plentiful a tranſmiſſion. It muſt be known, both how much blood is transfuſed, and how much is fit to be transfuſed, to go ſure.

STATE news is this: The *French* king hath ſent to the pope his laſt reſolutions of what he will agree to in the treaty. The *Swediſh* ambaſſador, when come, will revive the *Dutch* treaty here, and probably help to bring it to a good iſſue. The queen of *Portugal* hath got from the quondam king there a ſworn declaration, that he hath not performed the part of a huſband to her; and conſequently is like to marry the brother.

WHEN I ſee Mr. *Crook*, I hope I ſhall remember the commiſſion you have given me to him. I ſhall preſume to give you ſhortly notice of the time and manner of the intended *Latin* edition of the Tranſactions. I am very glad to hear I ſhall quickly receive the firſt part of the papers ſealed. By the end of this week you are like to receive the *French* tract of *Launay* from

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

I PRAY, Sir, pardon this haſty ſcribble.

I WAS lately deſired, by a very ingenious *French* proteſtant at *Paris*, to inform myſelf, *s'il y a dans la bibliotheque d'Oxford quelque traité des Grecs modernes, qui prouve, que les Grecs ne croyent point la tranſubſtantiation.*

THEY ſay, it is true enough, that the *Greeks* do not believe it, but it is difficult to juſtify it. And therefore they would fain have proofs of this truth, by books written

theſe laſt fifty years. I beſeech you, Sir, as you have opportunity, be pleaſed to enquire after this, and let me alſo intreat Dr. *Wallis* to join with you in the enquiry.

Ways of diſcovering the various preſſure of the air at ſea, by Mr. Hook.

" CONSIDERING with myſelf, of how great uſe the being able to diſcover the va-
" rious preſſure of the air at ſea might be, for the foretelling the alterations of wea-
" ther, to provide againſt approaching ſtorms, I was very deſirous to find ſome con-
" trivance for its diſcovery, which might be eaſily made uſe of at ſea. And finding
" it very difficult to make uſe of the common or wheel-barometer with mercury, by
" reaſon of the ſhaking of the ſhip, which would cauſe a very great dancing and vi-
" bration of the ſurface of the mercury, I contrived ſeveral ways for the preventing
" that inconvenience in good part. Now though I found, that very much of that
" might be taken off, by having an exceeding ſmall hole at the open end of the
" tube, to admit the air, whereby the air on the top of the mercury was it were im-
" priſoned, or (which is much better) by having a ſmall ſtop-cock placed juſt in
" the bending of the two pipes, ſo as after they have been filled and inverted, ac-
" cording to the uſual manner, the key of the ſtop-cock may be juſt ſo far turned,
" as to leave the leaſt imaginable paſſage for the mercury between the two ſtems;
" yet the inconvenience of the vibration was not wholly removed, though I believe,
" by this laſt expedient, a wheel-barometer may be very well uſed at ſea by a judi-
" cious man; and therefore for ſuch a perſon I think it preferable before any other
" way whatſoever. But becauſe every one is not ſo well able to give an eſtimate of
" the middle of ſuch kind of vibration, I bethought myſelf of ſome other ways of
" diſcovering the preſſure of the air, wherein no ſuch motion is to be feared. And
" for this, I think, nothing can be better than a weather-glaſs, made with pure air
" and mercury, wherein the mercury is left open to the preſſure of the air, and ſo be-
" comes agitated by a double principle of motion, heat and the preſſure of the air.
" In this inſtrument I make uſe of cleanſed mercury, 1. that it may not by the great
" heats of the air under the torrid zone be evaporated and diminiſhed; 2. that it may
" not be frozen by the colds of the frigid zone; and 3. that the included air may not be
" augmented by any ſteams, that may ariſe from almoſt any other ſubjacent liquor.
" For this I take to be very ſecure from any mutation of the air, as to heat and
" cold. To diſtinguiſh, therefore, what part of its motion is aſcribeable to the heat
" of the air, I would have another thermometer made with ſpirit of wine, and ſealed,
" as I have elſewhere deſcribed. Now both theſe thermometers ought to be gradu-
" ated together in a ſtove, or ſome ſuch place, at once, whereby the correſponding
" degrees of expanſion, ariſing from heat and cold, may be viſible. And if, by
" making obſervations with them at land, the diſcrepancy of them to one another be
" compared to the mercurial ſtandard, it will be very eaſy to calculate a table of dif-
" ferences, which ſhall exhibit all the various degrees of preſſure anſwering to all the
" various degrees of heat and cold. And ſo, only by the help of two ſuch weather-
" glaſſes, all the various preſſure of the air may be very practicably diſcovered at ſea,
" and conſequently the mutations of the weather may perhaps, in great meaſure, be
" timely enough diſcovered, by the inquiſitive and diligent mariner."

So far he. The Society is deſirous that all the objections, that may lie againſt this contrivance, may be brought in, to diſcern the better whether and how far it will do. I doubt not, Sir, but you, Dr. *Wallis*, and Dr. *Wren*, will thoroughly examine it, as ſome are doing here, and impart unto us your thoughts concerning it as ſoon as you can. For, if it ſhall be approved of, we intend to furniſh immediately ſome ſhips with it that are now going out.

SIR,

SIR, *London, Jan.* 14, 1667.

I HOPE, when you have received a good information about the *Greek* books, (for which I ſhould eſteem Dr. *Barlow*'s account chiefly) you will not delay the favour of tranſmitting it to me. Mr. *Hook*'s way of meaſuring the preſſure at ſea you have here annexed; and he knows of the order given by you to M. *Herringman*, for a book of yours to be delivered to him. I have not now any leiſure to look into your book of Cold, where, if I remember well, you have mentioned, if not deſcribed, a way of making baroſcopes, ſo as that they may be ſafely tranſported from place to place; but ſince you intimate you would have made no mention of it, I ſhall be altogether ſilent.

DR. *Willis* hath examined the powders come from *Briſtol*, and ſaith, that that powder which is to make the *Spa* water, is either vitriolum Martis at the beſt, or rather only a common *Engliſh* copperas dried and powdered. For the other powders, each of them being a ſeveral calx (he ſaith) of mineral water evaporated, there is no uſe of them, nor any thing worth enquiry to be inſiſted on about any of them.

I SOMEWHAT ſuſpect this judgment, for a reaſon you may eaſily imagine. Dr. *Merret* is ſomewhat more particular concerning the ſame, nor doth he undervalue them. He gave it in writing, and produced it before the Society, that num. 1. entitled, *Simple Extract of St.* Vincent's *Water*, is a creta with ſome vitriolate juice mixed with it. Num. 2. entitled, *Compound Extract*, hath vitriol in greater quantity apparently in it. Num. 3. is vitriolate too. Num. 4. ſaid to be made of ſteel, is nothing but a preparation of common vitriol, which by another preparation may be made only diuretic as other medicinal waters are; and that he hath found by frequent experiments, that *Tunbridge* and other purging waters are purely vitriolate.

THIS puts me in mind of a paſſage, contained among the particulars lately ſent from *Dantzick* by another conſul of that town, called *Michael Behm*, who ſeems to be a philoſopher as well as a ſtateſman, and one alſo that hath no ordinary eſteem of the *Engliſh* virtuoſi, and particularly of yourſelf. This gentleman, after he had given a ſingular good character of your books *De Fluiditate*, *&c.* and *De Coloribus*, goes on thus:

Utinam illuſtris vir (meaning you) *de natura ſalium experimenta ſua ampliora edere dignaretur, quomodo alcalia ſive lixivialia utpote fixa ab aliis acidis auſteriſque non minus ferè fixis diſcrepent, & utraque à volatilibus atque aliis ſpeciebus ſalium ſatis explicatis, atque craſi nomineque diſtinctis. Nam inter volatilia differre videmus ſal urinoſum à ſale, quod ineſt ſpiritui vini aliiſque inflammabilibus; quia commixta coagulantur & novam indolem acquirunt. Taceo mixturas liquoris ex nitro fixo cum ejuſdem ſpiritu acido, de quibus bene egit Dn. Boyle aliique. Magnam ſpem habeo inveniendi liquorem, qui veſicæ injectus blandè comminuat calculos, aliaſque mixturas, quæ in ventriculo & meſenterio noxias atque varias viſciditates (quas tartaro immeritò adſcribunt plurimi) præcaveant vel attenuent. Utinam Dn. Gliſſon, Wharton aliique ex anatomicis chymiciſque experimentis explicare vellent lymphæ, ſanguinis ſerique ejus degenerationes, & conglutinationis atque corruptionis modos & cauſas. Nuper ſerum ex ſanguine brutorum examinavi, & levi calore coagulari vidi, ferè inſtar albuminis ovi; potiſſimum addito acido indurabatur; ſed ab admixto ſpiritu vini ſerum tenebatur diu liquidum, magis tamen ab alcalibus: propediem accuratiora tentabo. Faciebam id, dum à podagra vexabar, quæ me à curis politicis invitum adegit hactenus ad hæc & talia medicinalia. Notavi ſanè morbos podagricos oriri, ubi urinoſa putrilago non ſeparatur per renes aut ſudores à maſſa ſanguinea, ſed cum ea diſtribuitur, & circa juncturas in frigidioribus ligamentis hæret; ubi propter ſalis acredinem dolores acriores, diffabiles tamen, vel propter glutinoſitatem tophos aut rigores junctrurarum efficit. Utinam hujus mali cauſas atque medelas ſublimia Anglorum ingenia penitius inveſtigare & orbi communicare vellent, ne inter medicos amplius incurabile cenſeatur. Idipſum initio me valdè fecit anxium, præſertim cum diligenter notarem, apud ægros nil*

nil prodeſſe purgantia & ſanguinis miſſiones, parùm ſudores & cauteria; obeſſe emplaſtra oleoſa, & refrigentia omnia: imò & ſpir. vini & ſalis armoniaci non ſatis elicere aut diſcutere totam materiam. Thermas (this is the thing I chiefly intend this tranſcript for) *valdè ſalubres eſſe, norunt omnes, & ipſe expertus ſum, præſertim quæ urinam provocant. Sed quia non ubique extant thermæ, præbuit mihi curioſitas liquorem, qui odore, ſapore, virtute, ſatis exactè emulatur thermas; ita, membra ægra, reliquum verò corpus ſimplici calida balneando, magnum levamen ſentio. Porrò expertus ſum proprio auſu inſignem medelam per pilulas, quæ urinam promovent, ſanguinem depurant, fluidoremque reddant, calculi materiam atque ſcorbuticas in meſenterio viſciditates referant, abſque alvi turbatione. Verùm per veſicatoria (diſſuadentibus licet medicis) dolenti parti adhibita, optimam, promptam, atque tutam hactenus per aliquot annos mihi aliiſque amicis inveni medelam; quamvis eam aliis, ad fiſtuloſa ulcera pronis, non ſuadeam. Utinam alii ſuas quoque medelas candide efferrent; non enim omnia proſunt omnibus.*

THERE are ſeveral other not inconſiderable particulars, both in this, and in another letter of the ſame conſul, which I have not now time to tranſcribe, and which may perhaps be of the ingredients in a number of the following Tranſactions.

I SENT on *Saturday* laſt by poſt the *French* printed paper, it being not bulky, and hope it is well arrived. I wiſh your amanuenſis did not diſappoint you ſo often. Since Mr. *Davis* intends to print thoſe two books of yours mentioned in your letter, I am ready to furniſh him with the verſion of the Paradoxes, leaving it to you what conſideration he is to allow for it, it having required no ſmall pains and time to perform it. I purpoſe, God willing, to read it over as ſoon as poſſibly I can, which I hope I ſhall have done within this fortnight; at or about the end of which I ſhall be able to ſend it you, if ordered to do ſo.

I HAD lately from Mr. *Colepreſſe* a letter, with ſome of his own obſervations concerning the tides, anſwerable to the queries printed in the Tranſactions; in which hereafter thoſe anſwers of his may likewiſe be publiſhed. He acknowledges in the ſame letter the receipt of your book, and I believe he hath alſo thanked you for it ere this.

THERE are no *French* letters come to me ſince my laſt, nor any others from abroad. We diſcourſe of ſetting out a fleet in the ſpring; I hope it will be in conjunction with the *Dutch*, to repreſs the conquering neighbour; which will ſoon appear, when the *Swediſh* ambaſſador ſhall be arrived here. Sir, I cannot conclude this, without acquainting you of the deſign of the Society's council, whereof you are a member, of building a college, as one of the moſt probable means of their eſtabliſhment. They did, on *Saturday* laſt conſider of it in a full council, where *H. Howard* of *Norfolk* was alſo preſent (who intends to continue his nobleneſs, either by contributing to this work a good ſum of money, or by giving us ground about *Arundel* houſe to build upon) and proceeded ſo far as to view a draught, and to ſelect out of the Society's liſt ſuch perſons, as they thought both willing and able for ſuch contributions: and to carry it on the more effectually, they appointed a committee of beggars (as they were pleaſed to term it merrily) or ſolicitors, to ſpeak to ſuch as were called out for that purpoſe, and to recommend this work to their liberality. Our preſident, biſhop of *Saliſbury*, Mr. *Howard*, Dr. *Wilkins*, and myſelf, are the principal beggars; we want Sir *R. Moray* exceedingly in this employment. Thoſe that came to my ſhare are ſet down in the encloſed liſt; and I was particularly deſired to acquaint you with this intention, and alſo Sir *R. Moray*, to engage him to beg in *Scotland* among the noblemen there, that are of the Society, on our behalf. I believe, Sir, you will not be diſpleaſed, if I am open and particular to you in this buſineſs; which I think myſelf obliged to be, as tending to your better direction and information. They gueſs there will be four claſſes

claſſes of contributions: ſome of 100*l.* ſome of 60 or 50, ſome of 40, ſome of 20. Our preſident hath already declared for 100; and I think the biſhop of *Saliſbury* for the like ſum. Dr. *Wilkins* for 50, Mr. *Hayes* for 40, Sir *Phil. Carteret* for 50, and if there be occaſion, for more. We begin with the council, and proceed to the Society; that, when we go on to beg of others not of our body, they may not object, we would load others and draw our own necks out of the yoke. The council, when they ran over the liſt of the Society, thought you, Sir, the fitteſt perſon to beſpeak my lord *Clifford*'s generoſity in this matter; thinking it ſuperfluous to invite yourſelf otherwiſe, than by a bare intimation. I am confident, you take in good part both the council's and my freedom in this diſcourſe, which ſtops my pen of ſaying more by way of excuſe of it. I muſt now paſs to make a tranſcript of Mr. *Hook*'s paper, which was promiſed you in the beginning of this letter, by,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Jan.* 28, 1667.

I AM almoſt altogether perſuaded, that upon a mature conſideration of the importance of building a college to eſtabliſh the Society, you will not at all heſitate in giving your approbation and concurrence thereto. We had on *Saturday* laſt, at the meeting of the council, a draught of the ſtructure before us, which was ſcanned ſufficiently, Mr. *Howard* being there alſo, and giving no ſmall proof of his underſtanding and ſkill in that art, as well as of his frankneſs and generoſity in giving the foundation, and forwarding the execution of the work. I think we ſhall at our next council, which is ſummoned to meet on *Thurſday* next in the evening, begin to make ſubſcriptions in ſuch a form, as may be obligatory in law, and yet not ſevere in the expreſſion. My lord *Angleſey* having the thing occaſionally mentioned to him by me, ſhewed ſo much inclination to it, that he is like to be received into the Society, and to be both a contributor and ſolicitor for this noble work. Sir, my opinion is, ſince you are pleaſed to demand it, that in caſe you think not yet fit to come to *London*, you may declare in a note to me the ſum you intend to caſt in, directing me to ſignify it to the council, and giving order where the Society's treaſurer ſhall receive it.

CONCERNING the proviſion made by the council to ſecure men's philoſophical proprieties, they have ordered, that if any thing of that nature be brought in and deſired to be lodged with the Society, in caſe the authors be not of their body, they ſhould be obliged to ſhew it firſt to the preſident, (for fear of lodging unknownly ballads and buffooneries in theſe ſcoffing times) and that then it ſhould be ſealed up, both by the ſmaller ſeal of the Society, and the ſeal of the propoſer; but if the authors were of the Society, that then they ſhould not be obliged to ſhew it firſt to the preſident, but only to declare the general head of the matter to be laid up, and that then it ſhould be ſealed up as mentioned before.

I DOUBT not, when that other critic ſhall have found any thing conſiderable about the *Greeks* faith in the doctrine of the ſacrament, you will take care to ſee it ſpeedily communicated to me. As I was writing this, there came to viſit me the rabbi *Abendana*, whoſe brother is now at *Oxford*. He mentioned what had been done in his buſineſs of vending ſome *Hebrew* manuſcripts, and that it was likely ſome would be bought at *Oxford*, and particularly that you had expreſſed an intention to buy ſome of them for yourſelf. I told him, that I was perſuaded you would aſſiſt Dr. *Barlow* in furthering this matter as much as you could; and he deſiring me that I would recommend

mend it to your particular care, I promiſed him to do in it, what you ſee here I do; intreating you withal to preſent, upon occaſion, my humble ſervice to Dr. *Barlow*, and to give him many thanks from me, for conſidering my note I ſent to him by theſe *Hebrews*, when he was at *London*, for recommending their deſires to him, I being then ſo unfortunate, that I always miſſed of Dr. *Barlow* when I was to wait on him at his lodgings in *Holborn*.

I AM ſorry I find nothing in your letter declared concerning Mr. *Hook*'s way of examining the preſſure of the air at ſea. It is a thing that ſhould be well and ſpeedily conſidered, that now the ſeaſon is come of ſhips going into all parts, it might be recommended to ſeveral careful maſters of ſhips for their obſervation. There are twelve great ſhips going for the *Eaſt-Indies*, whereof ſeven or eight are ready to ſet ſail by the firſt fair wind, the reſt to follow ſoon after. Here is a good opportunity for this particular, as well as for other enquires, we have lodged with ſome of them, and intend to do, God willing, with the reſt.

I AM very ſorry we muſt be ſo long deprived of your company, and I ſtretch my patience ſo far in ſtaying for the particular deſcription of the way of making experiments with ſealed receivers, and for the ſight of the performance of the trials themſelves.

ON *Thurſday* laſt Dr. *Lower* produced, by order, ſome horſes eyes, and ſhewed the company the cauſe of their frequent blindneſs; which is ſuch, that they can ſee nothing in the day time, but ſee very well in the dark, ſo as that they ſtumble and fall when they travel by day, but go well by night. He ſaid there was a ſpongy excreſcence growing in horſes out of the uvea, which did cover the whole pupil when contracted by the day-light; which was removed by the opening and enlarging of the pupil in the dark.

WE had alſo the view of four or five dozen particular ſorts of mineral, ſent to me for the Society's repoſitory by Mr. *Colepreſſe*, which pleaſed very well; among which there was a kind of earth, pretended to be a *terra ſigillata*, and an iron ore mixed with another matter, which, though ſo mixed, was yet ſenſible enough of the loadſtone. Sir *William Strode*'s ſon is here, and I believe another ſuch collection for you, if you could but come to receive it.

THE commiſſioners for accounts have ſent about their letters to the treaſurers and receivers, to bring in an account of monies received, *&c.* The parliament-men begin to flock hither again for *February* 6, and to talk already of what may be the fitteſt way of raiſing more money for the next ſummer's fleet, which, it is thought, will be rather done by a general exciſe upon commodities of conſumption, limited to two or three years, than to a new land-tax.

THE *French* ſhew, by their laſt letters, that they are ſurpriſed at our league with the *Dutch*, uſing this expreſſion: *Peu de gens avoient crû, que les choſes en duſſent venir là.* Their king is certainly gone with a good army to the *Franche Compté*, and, ſome ſay, already ſet down before *Dole*, to take in thoſe poſts before the imperial forces can paſs into *Burgundy*, and to prevent his being attacked in thoſe parts.

I HEAR the phrenetic man, that received the calves blood in him, is now very well, and that the experiment of it is printed by Mr. *Denys*, from whom I expect a copy of it every day.

WHEN they opened at *Vienna* the little archduke, that was born and died lately, there was found in his lungs three ſtones, and much ſerum in his brain.

AT *Paris* they have found four breaſts on a woman that died in one of their hoſpitals.

I AM certainly promiſed a copy of the *Florentine* experiments, now abroad; and I expect every hour *Steno de motu muſculorum geometrico*, as alſo *Borelli de vi percuſſionis*, and *Leotand de geometria practica*.

SIR, *London, February* 4, 1667-8.

I AM sorry I found nothing yet in your last, about the way proposed here of estimating the pressure of the sea air: but I humbly thank you and the critic for the titles of the books which concern the *Greeks*. What you were prevented in to say to some particulars of my last, I hope to hear from you about by your next, if it be worth while. If I can find out Mr. *Strode*'s lodging, I shall not fail, God willing, to acquaint him with your respects to him, nor to take of what he shall leave with me for you.

THE council of the Society having given order to print a hundred or two of the forms for subscriptions, I presume to send you one of them, since you have declared your willingness to contribute. If I had thought there were any others at *Oxford*, that would cast in their benevolence, I would have sent more copies. We hope we shall very shortly lay our foundation; and therefore the sooner the contributors take care of paying in their respective sums, the more they will oblige the Society, in hastening the execution of their design.

ON *Thursday* last the Society met not, because it was the 30th of *January*. At our next meeting we are like to have an experiment, to determine whether there may be made a body more ponderous than gold, by trying whether any quicksilver will penetrate into the pores of gold. And another, to shew the passage from the ear to the mouth, by cutting away the tympanum, and blowing tobacco fume through that organ into the mouth.

I HAVE now received *Stenonis Musculi Descriptio Geometrica*, and *Alphonsus Borrelli De Vi Percussionis*; of both which, and some two or three books more, I intend, God willing, to take notice in this month's Transactions.

SINCE I wrote this, I was visited by *R. Abendana*, who shewed me a letter from his brother now at *Oxford*, mentioning that you had expressed to him your wondering at my not taking notice of the catalogue of *Hebrew* books, brought over by the said *Abendana* to be sold here. I was surprised to hear this, who, if I am not greatly mistaken, mentioned in my very last that business to you, expressing how I had endeavoured to recommend it to Dr. *Barlow* here in *London*, and making it my request to you to assist in it, as much as your conveniency would permit. It is true, before I was spoken to by the Rabbi, I was silent of it in my letters to you; but that was upon the consideration of your manifold other engagements, which I thought would not suffer you to meddle with books of that nature, as for your own use; and as far as it might concern the public use of the university, I judged Dr. *Barlow* was more in the way of doing good in this matter, than any body I know of the university. This day the said *Abendana* entreats you, that, if you choose any books out of this catalogue, you would send, as soon as you can, your order for it, to leave them either with me, or some other person you shall think fit; because he is necessitated within a fortnight to return to *Amsterdam*. Sir, if you please to look only into my last letter, you will there find I did really recommend to you this affair.

THE *French* begin to declare their desire for an accommodation with *Spain*; and certainly, if *Sweden* do enter into our league with the *Dutch*, there will be a peace in all appearance: and that the rather, because one of the articles of that league imports, that if *France* do not comply with the conditions of peace, to be agreed on as reasonable by the allies, they shall combine their forces, both by sea and land, to compel the *French* to it, even to the reducing of them into that state they were in at the time of the *Pyrenean* treaty. And if *France* should be so obstinate as to suffer things to run so far, they will run the hazard of losing all they have gained in *Flanders*; whereas, if now they make peace, they are to keep what they have conquered in

in that counntry, or elſe to receive that which ſhall be judged equivalent by the umpires.

THE *French* king, when he reſolved upon the expedition into *Franche Compté*, deviſed this ſleight to bring together his nobility to follow him. He gave out, he would keep an extraordinary carnival at *Paris*; which tempted the *French* gentry to flock thither in extraordinary numbers. Being thus come together in vaſt troops, the king declares to them one night, that the next day he muſt take the field, and that whoſoever loved him would follow him. *Qui m'aime, me ſuive.* This made quickly up an army of 10000 horſe, who marched with their maſter without any heſitation they durſt give any ſign of.

THIS night is to be acted at court, by ſome of the fineſt gentlemen and faireſt ladies, the play of the *Horatii*; which has raiſed mighty expectations for great bravery, but finds not at leiſure to be a ſpectator,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, Feb.* 11, 1667-8.

I RECEIVED your laſt rich packet, full of philoſophical experiments and money. I ſhall hide the former till further order, and declare the latter at the firſt meeting of the next council, and acquaint you with the time of the firſt actual payment made by any of the contributors. I humbly thank you for all, as alſo for the communications of what concerns the *Greek* belief of the ſacrament, which I ſent away yeſternight.

WHATEVER you ſhall ſend to our noble preſident, I am ſure he will take as much care of as of any thing of his own.

HERE are arrived two of the *Florentine* virtuoſi; whereof the one is Signior *Magolotti*, the other's name I have not yet heard. I met them yeſterday accidentally in *Weſtminſter-hall*, accompanied with Sir *Bern. Gaſcoyn*, who brought us together, and who intends to conduct them to the meeting of the Society on *Thurſday* next. They expect every day a packet from *Paris*, containing an exemplar of the *Florentine* experiments, to be by them preſented from cardinal *Leopold* to the Society. I intend this very night yet to give them a viſit, and as ſolemn a welcome as I can. When they return home, I may by their favour purchaſe a correſpondence with all the ingenious men in *Italy*, if I pleaſe, and am able to entertain it. I find by Mr. *Colepreſſe*'s laſt letter, that he intends ſtill to travel; being deſirous I would procure for him ſome recommendatory letter, under the ſeal of the Society, to penetrate with the more eaſe and credit into the company and acquaintance of the curious abroad. I may alſo accompany him with a particular letter of my own, and, if you pleaſe, Sir, to have any thing ſaid concerning him, as from yourſelf, (which you ſeemed to give a hint of in one of your laſt) I ſhall ſerve you in it very readily, upon the receipt of your inſtructions as to the particulars you would have mentioned about it.

THERE came lately to hand a letter written from *Balſora*, which you know lies near the *Perſian* gulf, relating, that thereabout had not long ſince been an extraordinary earthquake, which laſted thirty-two days and nights, and ſwallowed up three hundred houſes, and all the men; and that where the earth thus ſunk with ſo many houſes, there appeared inſtead of it a large lake ſome fathoms deep: and then, that at ſome diſtance from that place another lake full of fiſh, did, in thoſe thirty-two days of the earthquake, caſt up all its fiſh on the dry land, where might have been gathered many;

and that when the new great lake appeared, the old one dried up and became firm land.

HERE was yesterday made public a small book, licensed by my lord *Arlington*, entituled, *A free conference touching the interest of* England, *in reference to the present* French *designs*. The short of it is, that neutrality in this conjuncture of affairs is dishonourable and dangerous for *England*; and that, in taking part, the interest and honour of *England* directs to join with *Spain* rather than with *France*. It seems to be well done, but it will vex the latter of those two crowns, not only by reason of the matter itself, but also of some smart expressions and reflections on the *French*.

HIS majesty in his speech yesterday to the parliament, acquainted them with the league made with *Holland*, with the necessity of a supply to make it good; and with his desires of considering of an effectual way to make all his protestant subjects worship God cheerfully and unanimously. But the house of Commons the same morning, before the king came, had voted that his majesty should be desired to issue a proclamation, reinforcing the execution of the act of uniformity, and other statutes; which is a riddle to,

SIR,

your very faithful humble servant,

OLDENBURG.

No news yet of the *French* king's success in the *Franche Compté*.

SIR, *London, Feb.* 18, 1667-8.

I HAVE not only received your sealed paper, but also produced it before the Society, together with your intimation of giving the first example in making the Society a depository of inventions. They were well pleased with it, and ordered that it should be delivered by me to our president, who was not there, but who received it from my hands two or three days after, and put it up in my presence in a box by itself, after he had written on it the day and the year of his receiving it, as I had done the same minute it came to my hands. One of the company, though in another place, objected, that the matter not being named of such notions or inventions, it might happen that another might light upon the same thing, and not only have it in his conception, but also bring it to perfection; and that in such a case he ran the hazard of losing the honour of what he had done and perfected upon the account, that another before him had given a hint of the same thing.

To this I thought I could justly reply, that such notions and discoveries being sealed up, and thereby kept from coming to the knowledge of others, if another should light upon and perfect the like, it would then be manifest to all the world, the latter had it not from the former, and therefore the Society would be so just as to testify so much, and withal to add upon occasion, that the latter had not only conceived such and such a thing, without being beholden to others for it, but also rendered it compleat or useful (according as the matter may be.)

I DID not mention any thing in my last about the success of the experiment about filling the pores of gold, because nothing was done it that brought the thing to any certainty; though I believe it will be prosecuted with more care than hitherto. It is aimed at, to try whether the pores of that metal, for all its compactness, will admit ☿ into them; and whether there may be made a substance compounded of two, that shall be heavier when mixed, than both of them asunder.

I HOPE, when Dr. *Wren* comes to *London*, he will bring your leave with him of letting the Society know your way of determining experimentally, to what height water

water can be raiſed by pumping. I ſhall not ſo much as name it, becauſe I find not your permiſſion to do ſo. Some of the *Florentine* virtuoſi are come, but not yet their book of experiments. They were pleaſed the other day to give me a viſit, wherein they told me, upon my enquiry, that the chief ſubject of their experiments was the air and the preſſure thereof; which things, if they had been publiſhed three or four years ago, might perhaps appear new, but would hardly do ſo now. You will eaſily think I underſtand them, and why they prefaced ſuch a thing here, where they know that argument hath been ſo plentifully and accurately proſecuted. They did enquire for you, and expreſſed their trouble for not finding you in town. Though they intend not to make a long ſtay, yet I am apt to think they may find cauſe to ſtay ſo long as to ſee you here.

THE *French* king hath maſtered all *Franche Compté*, and is not like to ſtop there: ſome fear either *Antwerp* or *Luxemburg* will be next. The preparations of thoſe, whoſe intereſt it is to ſtop his progreſs, are both ſlow and ſlight, as far as I ſee, and others with me.

——— ſerò medicina paratur
Cùm mala per longas invaluêre moras.

I will not ſay any thing of the late votes in parliament concerning the many miſcarriages in the late war: you will have that matter from better and ſafer hands. To-morrow I hear they will fall upon the conſideration of the king's ſpeech, and chiefly upon money and toleration.

SIGNIOR *Borrhi* is at *Copenhagen*, if I am not miſinformed; which is all that can at preſent be ſaid of him by,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

WE do hear ſomewhat of a very odd diſeaſe of a youth about *Oxford*, of his bones being corrupted, ſo as that he takes them out of his jaw-bones and elſewhere by fragments of whole ounces weight, and that without any conſiderable pain. We ſhould be very glad to know the truth and circumſtances hereof from a good hand. If he be born of healthy parents, it were worth enquiry whether his nurſe was alſo healthy, and free from the lues venerea.

SIR, *London, Feb.* 25, 1667-8.

I HAVE received both the favour of your letter, which gives notice of your preſent, and the preſent itſelf. As I was ſurpriſed at it, ſo I checked myſelf for having left open my note about that book, and thereby occaſioned you that trouble. I have nothing to return, but my humble thanks and this annexed print, which I am perſuaded you will eſteem upon the account both of your devotion to the inventor, (his majeſty) and the expeditious uſefulneſs of the contrivance itſelf. I muſt alſo add my thankfulneſs for the ſecond part of thoſe experiments you formerly were pleaſed to entruſt with me, who ſhall be very punctual in concealing them, till you allow me the liberty of making them known.

THE *Italian* philoſophers are gone, I preſume, this very morning for *Oxford*. They told me on *Sunday* laſt, when I reviſited them, that they would do ſo. I am confident, their converſation with Mr. *Boyle* alone will make them to be abundantly ſatisfied with their journey; though, I think, they will alſo make themſelves known to Dr. *Wallis* and Dr. *Wren*. They were on *Thurſday* laſt at our public meeting at *Arundel* houſe,

but

but came pretty late, and at a time when our president was not in the chair, whose singular dexterity of managing whatsoever is proposed there you well know. There was only made before them the experiment of weighing tin and copper asunder, and mixed both in the air and in water, and the mixed found heavier than the parts separated. Mr. *Hook* has not prosecuted that experiment of making a body heavier than gold.

THERE occurring in *Steno*'s *Musculi Descriptio Geometrica* an experiment of binding up the descending artery from the head, and thereby depriving immediately the animal of all sense and motion, these *Florentines* were asked, whether they saw the experiment made, it having been performed at *Florence:* they answered that they had not, but heard M. *Steno* say that he had done it, but sometimes failed therein, Perhaps it will be experienced by Dr. *Lower* here.

THERE was read before the Society part of a letter written to me by Monsieur *Carcavy*, the famous *French* mathematician, and the present bibliothecarius of the royal library at *Paris*, and one of the chief of the new *French* experimental academy: the main thing was in these words:

Lors qu'il plait à Dieu donner des roys, comme nous les avons, l'on ne doit pas, ce me semble, leur rendre simplement l'obeissance, l'amour, & la fidelité qu'on est obligé, mais il faut, que ceux, qui ont le bien de les approcher, menagent autant qu'ils peuvent tous les momens d'un regne si heureux, pour ne se pas rendre coupables envers la posterité de ne luy avoir pas procuré les avantages d'une rencontre si favorable. C'est à quoy vous & les autres messieurs de vostre Societé vous employez si dignement: c'est à quoy nous travaillons aussi dans nostre academie, & taschons de contribuer par nos soins & par nostre diligence à ce que demande de nous la generosité & la munificence du plus grand, & du meilleur roy, que nous ayons eu. Et comme vos travaux & les nostres ne tendent qu' à l'utilité publique, & que le secours mutuel, que nous pourrions nous rendre, serviroit beaucoup à l'augmenter, nous establirons toute la correspondence, que vous jugerez à propos: & en vostre particulier, s'il vous plait, que je vous donne part de ce que nous ferons, ce me sera une joye singuliere de pouvoir vous assurer, que, &c.

OUR Society hereupon ordered only, because this letter was not formally written from that Society to this, that no farther notice should be taken of it, but that I might give him thanks in a private letter, and in general terms embrace his offer. This I was not very well satisfied with. I see punctilios retard and obstruct much good, both public and private. But I must submit.

SIR, if you come to determine any thing of the burning of bodies in vacuo, I should esteem it a great favour to be instructed in the point, who shall declare no more of it than you shall order me.

THE *French* army marches into the province of *Luxemburg*, and strikes terror into the princes seated on the *Rhine*, particularly *Treves* and *Mayence*. The king himself is returned to St. *Germain*, extolling his conquests, and making himself merry with our late league, saying, *Les foux & les gueux se sont accordés*. But since *Spain* and *Portugal* are agreed on one hand, and *England* and *Holland* on the other, it would be a very strange providence if *France* should still go on to prevail.

WE say the parliament will raise money neither by a land tax, nor by excise, but by an imposition upon excess and luxury, as silks, spices, wines, coaches, sedans, pictures, perfumes, perriwigs, comedians, mountebanks, shews, *&c.*

How far this will go, or whether indeed it will be fixed upon, is not yet known, but doubtless will be very shortly, considering the nearness of the spring, and the necessity of arming, to stop the *French* inundation.

THERE are at this time twelve ships designed for the *East-Indies*, whereof eight are already gone for the coast, and four are to follow in *March* for *Suratte*. You will easily

eaſily gueſs we let not them go without our philoſophical commiſſions. If you pleaſe to ſend any new directions or enquiries thither, they ſhall be faithfully recomended by,

SIR,

your faithful humble ſervant,

H. O.

P. S. I ſent this morning by carrier a great packet of two *Petrus Bleſenſis*, printed at *Paris*, to *Oxford*, addreſſed to Dr. *Wallis*, accompanied with my letter to him, which I would deſire him to ſend for. I know, Sir, you will give him part of the news I have mentioned, and in particular of that of M. *Carcavy*. I forgot, I think, to deſire him to procure and ſend me one of his *Grammatica Linguæ Anglicanæ*, for the uſe of a *Pariſian* virtuoſi; the ſooner the more welcome.

WHEN I wrote this, I had hopes to have got a print of the king's new way of fortifying; but he that promiſed it, hath failed me this time.

SIR, *London, Mar.* 3, 1667.

THE *Florentine* gentlemen met, it ſeems, with ſome impediments, which ſtopped them in their journey to *Oxford* on that day they had appointed for it. They were again with us at *Arundel* houſe on *Thurſday* laſt, when we had no ill entertainment for them. There were produced by Mr. *Smethwick* ſome of his new-figured glaſſes, for which he hath obtained a patent from the king. He maintains, they are of a figure not ſpherical; whether elliptical or hyperbolical he declares not. He brought in of three ſorts: Firſt, a teleſcope of four feet, furniſhed with three eye-glaſſes of a new figure, and a common object-glaſs, he not having as yet been able to make ſuch for any conſiderable length. This teleſcope being compared with a common, yet a very good one, ſomewhat larger than it, it was found that it excelled it conſiderably; by magnifying the objects more, and repreſenting them more exactly in their due proportions, without colours, if the eye were held juſt in the center of the glaſs. Then there was a reading or microſcopical glaſs, which ſhewed the letters, and magnified them up to the very edges, from one brim to the other, thorough the center perfectly. Laſtly, two burning concaves of that figure, (both of ſix inches diameter, but of ſuch different cavities, that the focus of the one was but three inches diſtant from the center of the glaſs, the focus of the other ten inches) did, when held to a lighted candle, warm the faces of thoſe that were preſent, at four or five feet diſtance, and when approached to the fire, burn gloves and clothes at the diſtance of a yard and more. The inventor added (appealing for it to the teſtimony of the biſhop of *Saliſbury*, as an eye-witneſs) that the former of theſe concaves had by the ſun turned wood into a flame in the ſpace of ten ſeconds; and the latter in the ſpace of five ſeconds, and that in autumn about nine in the morning, the weather gloomy.

OUR preſident, before he will declare any thing poſitively of the figure of theſe glaſſes, will by a gauge meaſure them; and if the invention bear his teſt, it will paſs for current, and be no diſcredit to the Society, that a member of theirs is the author thereof.

THEN there was made *Steno*'s experiment, of tying up the deſcending artery of a dog, to ſee whether thereupon all motion would ceaſe in the animal, as *Steno* affirms it does. But it ſucceeded not with us, who made only a compreſſure of the veſſel with a finger, and not a ligature. This experiment is to be repeated with more exactneſs, before we decry *Steno*.

FURTHER,

FURTHER, there was tried your experiment of compreſſing the air upon ſhining fiſh, which ſucceeded very well, the air compreſſed upon the fiſh rendering the light of it conſiderably more vivid than before; the *Florentines* being very well pleaſed with the ſight thereof, and made acquainted we were obliged to Mr. *Boyle* for it.

NEXT, there was conſidered a letter written to me by doctor *John Palmer*, that mathematical divine, who is now archdeacon of *Northampton*; in which letter the author acquaints us of an attempt of his, to reſolve all algebraical queſtions by the common *regula falſi*; and that he had made ſome progreſs in it, declaring his purpoſe to communicate to us his further ſucceſs therein, and referring us to a place in *Pitiſcus*, confirming his opinion, in theſe words: (Trigonom. l. 5. in append.) *Regula falſi in trigonometria tam magnum uſum habet, ut diſcipulum ejus artis à tricis algebraicis prorſus liberare poſſit.*

WE had alſo a full relation of the waterman, whoſe temporal muſcle was broken by a violent ſtroke, whereupon two ſpoonfuls of his brain came out, and yet this man recovered, without any conſiderable prejudice to his intellectuals.

THERE was alſo an account given of a ſtone, taken out of the bladder of Sir *Thomas Adams*, lately deceaſed, which weighed 25½ ounces and 2 drachms; and yet the breeder of it ſaid not to have complained of any conſiderable trouble, till a few days before his death, when it ſeems the ſtone, that before was faſtened to the bladder, fell down and ſtopped up the paſſage. We are on *Thurſday* next to ſee the ſtone itſelf.

THERE were alſo produced ſeveral curioſities to be lodged in our repoſitory; as a great bone petrified; a whole egg in an egg; a ſtone bottle, which ſeven years ago was filled full with *Malaga* ſack, and well ſtopped, but is now empty, though ſaid never to have been opened, and the outſide is all covered over with a thick mucous coat, having ſtood in a corner of a wine-cellar all that time.

NO great news from abroad; only that *Munſter* is arming again, and ſuſpected to be hired by the *French*, to infeſt the *Dutch* again. *Spain* is ſaid to be willing to the alternative, but I doubt whether *France* be ſo too. I fear they will, upon their late ſucceſſes in the *Franche Compté*, carry it high, and recede from their engagement, and take the field too early for their adverſaries.

SIR, the particulars abovementioned I would beg Dr. *Wallis* may have a ſight of; to whom I cannot now in a letter apart acknowledge the receipt of his. Mean time, I am his very humble ſervant, and ſhall, God willing, obſerve what he intimates about another copy of *P. Bleſenſis* for *Baliol* college.

MR. *Colepreſſe* is ſhortly going over, as I underſtand by his laſt to me. I have obtained for him a letter recommendatory upon parchment from the Society, with their common ſeal to it; and I have preſumed to ſecond it by a private letter of my own to Dr. *Sylvius* at *Leyden*, wherein I have not forgot the expreſſions of your eſteem for this friend of ours. The ſaid doctor, as I have ordered the matter, will recommend him all over the *Low Countries*, and in *Denmark* and *Germany*, into all which parts he declares his intention to go: and if he travel alſo into *France*, upon the firſt notice ſent me, I can give him there as good philoſophical acquaintance as he can deſire.

HE intimates at the cloſe of his laſt letter (which was dated *February* 22) that that week had produced extraordinary high tides, raiſed by the ſtorm, as they ſuppoſed; but yet that himſelf obſerved one, on *February* 21 in the morning, very high, yet the weather calm. This alſo Dr. *Wallis* ſhould know from,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

SIR,

SIR, *London, March* 10, 1667-8.

HOWEVER you are so sparing in your intimation of the entertainment you gave the *Italian* virtuosi, yet I doubt not but, when I shall see them, they will be very liberal in making their acknowledgments, as it deserved. I found yesterday, at Mr. *Martyn*'s, a book of the *Florentine* experiments, which they had ordered to be bound for *Thursday* next, to be then presented by them from P. *Leopold* to the Royal Society. I could but cast my eye upon the heads treated therein; which, as I remember, are these in their own expressions:

Experienze appartenenti alle naturale pressione dell'aria.
——— *Intorno agli artificiali agghiaciamenti.*
——— *Intorno al ghiacio naturale.*
——— *Intorno alla variatione della capacita di metallo & di vetro.*
——— *Intorno alla compressione dell'aqua.*
——— *Per provare, che non v'é legherezza positiva.*
——— *Intorno alla calamita, o magnete.*
——— *Intorno all'ambra & altre sustanze di virtu elettricha.*
——— *Intorno ad alcuni cambiamenti di colori in diversi fluidi.*
——— *Intorno à movimenti del suono.*
——— *Intorno à i projetti.*
——— *varie.*

I DOUBT, by some circumstances I spied, that this book hath been craftily composed. But I ought not to anticipate.

YOU thought not fit to name the subject of that experiment, which you mention you had made so, as it is likely it will displease the peripatetics. I am to press nothing.

WE intend to try *Steno*'s experiment, about the ceasing of all motion upon the descending artery's being tied up, over and over again, before we decry it. Mean time, I neither say, nor found cause by *Steno*'s book to say, that he mentions it as a new thing, and a discovery of his own, that the glossopetræ and other such stones have been animals petrified.

WE are assured that the bottle thus coated, as I mentioned in my former, was never opened since it was filled with the *Malaga* sack; but, *sit penes authorem fides:* we only set it down as it was related to us, without putting any great weight upon it.

THURSDAY next we are again severely to examine Mr. *Smethwick*'s glasses, though we are pretty well satisfied already that they are not spherical, and that they exceed those that are so, considerably. But we cannot be too rigid in the examen, before we give a public testimony of it to the world, as is desired of us.

THERE is, it seems, a dispute in *France* about this argument, *viz. Si l'on peut juger de combien de degrez une lumiere est plus grande qu'une autre, comme l'on juge de combien de tous un son est plus aigu qu'un autre.*

MONSIEUR *Auzout* I am informed saith this: *Que l'ouïe a cet avantage par dessus tous les autres sens, qu'elle juge non seulement de la difference, mais encore de la quantité & de la raison de son objet. Car outre que l'oreille connoit, qu'un son est plus aigu qu'un autre, elle connoit encore de combien de tous il est plus aigu: mais quoyque l'oëil apperçoive, qu'une lumiere est plus grande qu'une autre, il ne sçauroit determiner de combien de degrés elle est plus grande. Et le mesme Auzout adjouste, qu'il faudroit tascher de connoitre cette raison, par ce qu'on en pourroit tirer de grands avantages pour la perspective & pour la peinture.*

FROM another place, *viz. Lyons*, I am informed, that there was lately opened the body of a child, that died of five years of age, and had so horrid an abscess in the left cavity of his thorax, that they took out above six pounds of pus: besides they

found the heart of the ſame child in the right ſide of the thorax, and the baſis downwards, and the apex upwards: whereof I intend, God willing, to give the particulars more at large, though not in the Tranſactions of this month (which are already full) yet in thoſe of the next.

SIR, I delivered on *Sunday* laſt to Mr. *Hatherton*, a big packet of letters for you from M. *Colepreſſe*, to be ſent by carrier; which I mention, that you may ſuſpend your writing to him till they come to your hands, which doubtleſs they will do before the end of this week.

THE biſhop of *Saliſbury* took occaſion the other day of his own accord to expreſs his great earneſtneſs to ſee me provided for, with a recognition for my labours and concerns for the Society. He would, he ſaid, have it urged in council, and was pleaſed to add, that he for his own part was aſhamed that I was ſo long neglected, who had for ſo many years ſpent all my time and all my pains upon the buſineſs of the Society, without any conſideration for it. I confeſs, Sir, I make very hard ſhift to weather it out; and I could be contented it were inſiſted on in the council, but that I ſhall want your preſence and favour there, to repreſent a little the particulars that paſs through my hands, and the difficulties I groan under; which I cannot ſo well ſpecify to others, as I know you will give me leave to do to you. I am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, March* 17, 1667.

THE Society hath as yet had no account upon the letters, they ordered to be written by *D. Pope* and myſelf to Dr. *Wellington* and Dr. *Wren*. Whether they will on *Thurſday* next, time will ſhew. At our laſt meeting, the *Florentines* (towards whom I intend to diſcharge myſelf of the commiſſion you have given me, as ſoon as I ſhall ſee them again) preſented, in the name of prince *Leopold*, the pompous book of their experiments to the Society; for which they received ſolemn thanks, which the ſecretary was commanded by the preſident to deliver in *Latin*. The book was committed to the peruſal of Dr. *Merrit* and Dr. *Ball*, who are maſters of that tongue in which it is written. When their account ſhall be brought in, you will not want it long, though I hope you will, by your much deſired return, prevent my writing of it. Mean time, I underſtand there is nothing new in it, as to us, except it be perhaps ſome experiments of amber, and a way of making a map of a country by ſounds. I perceive by your laſt, you have not left the former untried; and I am much miſtaken, if you have not ſpent ſome time in meaſuring the extent of the paſſage of ſounds. I am very glad you have lighted on your papers again, which belong to the appendix of the Pneumatical Experiments; and thence hope that appendix will now ſhortly come to light, in which hopes and wiſhes of mine I have the concurrence of very many. I wiſh, Sir, you had given me the titles of thoſe new treatiſes, you ſay to have ſeen where you are. Surely they are not yet tranſmitted hither. In the Tranſactions of this month I mention only two books, the *Florentine* Experiments (only as to the heads of them) and a pregnant mathematical book (*Vera circuli & hyperbolæ quadratura*) by Mr. *Gregory*, a *Scotchman*, a treatiſe much applauded by our preſident, as will appear by the account given thereof in my papers, now under the preſs.

WHAT I mentioned to you in my laſt, of M. *Auzout*'s conſiderations about ſounds, I can now enlarge with ſome animadverſions, made thereon by one *P. Poiſſon*, *Pere de l'Oratoire*, as they came to my hands ſince. He diſcourſeth thus:

Il faut

Il faut remarquer, qu'il y a beaucoup de difference entre le ſon & le ton. Car le ſon eſt une choſe abſoluë; le ton eſt la rapport, & l'union, qui ſe fait d'un ſon à un autre: ainſi le fà, conſideré abſolument, eſt un ſon; mais il devient ton par rapport au ſol ou à ſon octave. Or je ſuppoſe, qu'une baſſe & un deſſus chante ce fà à l'uniſſon; je defie l'oreille la plus delicate de determiner, de combien de degrez cette baſſe eſt differente du deſſus. Mais ſi le deſſus chante un la, pendant que la baſſe chantera un fà, on s'apperçevra bien alors de cette tierce majeure, & des degrez, qui la compoſent.

Cela poſé je dis, que l'oreille n'a aucun avantage ſur les autres ſens, & que chaque ſens eſt à ſon objet, come l'ouïe eſt au ſien. Car ſi l'oeïl ne peut pas juger, combien une meſme couleur, comme le bleu, eſt plus ou moins chargé qu'un autre bleu; l'oreille ne peut pas non plus juger, de combien une voix, qui chante à l'uniſſon, eſt plus ou moins haut que l'autre; ſi l'oreille juge, de combien de degrez le ſol eſt plus eſlevé que l'oet, l'oeïl s'apperçoit auſſi de la difference, qu'il y a entre le cramoiſy & le jaune, contant les degrez de difference par les couleurs compriſes entre deux, ſcav. la couleur de feu, le rouge, l'incarnat, &c. Enfin, comme l'oreille connoit, ſi un ton ou un ſemi-ton eſt juſte, par exemple, ſi le Re n'approche point de l'Ut ou du Mi; l'oeïl s'apperçoit auſſi, ſi le rouge eſt dans ſa beauté, & s'il ne tire point trop ſur le jaune, ou ſur le cramoiſy, que je ſuppoſe eſtre le plus haut degré de rougeur. Voila ce qui n'eſt venu dans l'eſprit touchant cette difficulté, que je reſerve à traitter plus amplement dans un autre lieu.

WHAT to ſay to this I know not: I muſt leave it to knowing men to conſider it farther.

I RECEIVED lately a letter from Mr. *Glanvill*, full of reſpects to you, and expreſſing his readineſs to make careful enquiries concerning the waters of the *Bath*, where he wiſhes that Mr. *Boyle* would give himſelf the trouble of furniſhing him with ſome queries to direct him. Sir, I join my requeſts to his wiſhes, and I doubt not but we ſhall receive as good an account to ſuch queries, as we have done to thoſe about mines; which you will ſee upon your return to *London*. I can aſſure you, that thoſe letters of Mr. *Colepreſſe* had not been above two or three days in my hands, when I ſent them to M. *Hatherton* for you. But I ſuſpect Mr. *Strode* had kept them long with him, by reaſon of his ſickneſs here in *London*, or of forgetfulneſs, or hope of ſeeing you here.

FROM *France* I have only this civil news:

M. Colbert doit aller à Aix vendredi, qui vient (the letter was dated *March* 21, new ſtile) *avec toute cela on doute de la paix* (the former letter ſounded otherwiſe) *& tout le monde croit, que Caſtel-Rodrigo n'a point de pouvoir.*

I HOPE Dr. *Wallis* received my letter of *March* 10. I am,

SIR,

your very faithful ſervant,

OLDENBURG.

SIR, I had almoſt forgot to give you notice of what I had from a very good hand at *Copenhagen*, that Signior *Borrhi* is there, in great favour and credit with that king, whom he is ſaid to have given great ſatisfaction in many things, beſides ſeveral great cures he hath done in that place.

SIR,

I FIND by your laſt return, I am guilty of an unſeaſonable importunity expreſſed in my former; which yet, ſince I am not wont to be ſo in my own particular concerns, I am apt to believe I ſhall the more eaſily obtain your pardon for, the more it

proceeded from a zeal to further a public and uſeful work, as the building of a college for the Royal Society is conceived to be by the council, as being that which will in all likelihood eſtabliſh our inſtitution, and fix us (who are now looked upon but as wanderers, uſing precariouſly the lodgings of other men) in a certain place, where we may meet, prepare and make our experiments and obſervations, lodge our curators and operators, have our laboratory, obſervatory, and operatory all together. It is a maxim I learned in my logic, when a boy, *Qui amat finem, amat & media ad finem.* And I confeſs I am as averſe from, and as much a bungler in begging, as any man; but I can deny myſelf, and go againſt the ſtream of my inclinations, when the proſecution of honour and public uſefulneſs is in the caſe, as here it is; and therefore am not aſhamed to beg, when it is a means to accommodate and promote the good ends of the Society's inſtitution. I think, ſince I have endeavoured to ſerve them to the utmoſt of my power theſe ſix years *gratis*, and am a beggar to boot as to my private fortune, I may extend my endeavours ſo much farther, as to go a begging for the Society's eſtabliſhment, eſpecially in ſo good company as our preſident Mr. *Henry Howard*, Sir *Robert Moray* (though abſent) and ſome others have a mind to be. Sir, you will pardon my fervor, though, perhaps, accompanied with new guilt (that of indiſcretion.)

I CAN eaſily gueſs the reaſon, which induces you not to pronounce at preſent in Mr. *Hook*'s propoſal. I ſhall be very glad to receive the thoughts of thoſe two ſagacious perſons you have named concerning it; which may be ſo managed, as that your way for obviating the main inconvenience of the baroſcope at ſea may be intimated in their declaration, as a thing they have heard you diſcourſe of to them.

SIR, I am going to anſwer the letters and papers received from the *Baltic*, though I ſhall not ſend it away till next week. If you think fit to ſay any thing to the new *Dantiſcan* conſul by my pen, I can inſert it; if not, I ſhall let him know what you mentioned in your laſt, of your pre-engagement in other matters.

WE had before us at our laſt meeting two weather-glaſſes, contrived by Mr. *Hook*, for the obſervation of weather at ſea; as alſo a new contrived engine for grinding and preſſing of cyder-fruit all at once: and likewiſe a way of promoting the vibrations of pendulums ſtraight, without checking them at all. But my lord *Brounker* was not there. You know, Sir, what I mean.

I RECEIVED lately a return of that *Turkiſh* ſheet of the *New Teſtament*, which a good while ſince I ſent to *Amſterdam*. It came back with many animadverſions, and with a letter reflective enough on the author of that verſion. But having ſpoken with Mr. *Seaman* hereupon, I am pretty well ſatisfied about it, and have deſired him to vindicate both himſelf and his work as fully as he can. I ſuppoſe he has already written about it to *Oxford* (as I intended to have done to you laſt week, but that I forgot it) and conſulted with his friends there. Mr. *Hyde* will do a good ſervice to ſome proteſtants in *France*, to give what information he can about the ſenſe of the *Greeks* of this laſt fifty or ſixty years in the point of tranſubſtantiation (for that is particularly deſired, the *Romaniſts* pretending, that they have of late years complied with them) and that as ſoon as conveniently he can. I am ready to ſerve him again to my power upon all occaſions.

SIR, doubtleſs you heard ere this of our league with the *Dutch*, *Swedes*, and *Brandenburg*, for interpoſing as umpires in the conteſt between *France* and *Spain*, reſolved to oblige thoſe two parties to comply with what the allies ſhall judge reaſonable and juſt, or to expoſe the refuſing party to the danger of being invaded by thoſe judges. This certainly will put the *French* king to new counſels, who, we hear, is reſolved for a journey, to be begun, as the laſt letters ſay, the 3d of *February* (new ſtile) but not certainly known whither, nor for what deſign, though intimated to be of great im-

portance. And some do venture to write, that it is to surprise *Antwerp*; others, to attend Don *Juan d'Austria*'s motion, and, if possible, to cut him off in his passage into the *Spanish Netherlands*, he being reported to be in the head of 10000 men, most *Germans*.

If you will have the patience to hear the magnifying discourse for the *French* king, I will give it you in my author's own words, *viz.*

Le voyage du roy est certain. Il y a bien de l'apparence, que les Païs Bas seront bien tost à luy, ses ennemis n'ayans ny conseil, ny soldats, ny capitaines. L'empereur sera neutre. Les Hollandois n'oseront l'irriter, & les autres princes ne pouvent pas agir d'eux mesmes. La compagne, qui vient, en toute apparence sera aussi heureuse que celle de l'année passée, & peut estre d'avantage, si la paix ne se fait pas; à quoy il y a peu de disposition.

Non obstant la guerre, on va payer les pensions des gens de lettres, qui montent à pres de 100,000 *livres par an. Outre cela, il y a un fonds pour les bastimens. Enfin jamais il n'y a eu de roy, qui ait plus de lumiere, de conduite & de bonheur que le nostre.* Beside this he saith, *Qu'un des principaux de l'Academie de Caën a proposé à M. Colbert, le secret d'adoucir l'eau de la mer, qu'on doit examiner.* This we did let fall to the ground. I am,

SIR,

your very humble servant,

H. O.

SIR, *London, March* 24, 1667.

THERE was at our last meeting brought in a slight account concerning the book of the *Florentine* Experiments; but it was not Dr. *Merret*'s, who intends, as himself told me this very morning, to read it thorough with attention, and compare it with what he knows to have been already done in *England*. After his company I received the visit of a gentleman, who gave me notice that a friend of his, whom he scrupled to name, residing now at *Rome*, had sent him an *Italian* journal *des Sçavans*, or Philosophical Transactions, which he shewed and left with me, lately begun to be published at *Rome*, in imitation of the *French* and *English*: besides, he acquainted me that his said friend offered himself (which he read to me out of the letter) to procure for the Royal Society a correspondency all over the world, by means of the missionaries, who from *Rome* are sent into all parts, said by the author of the letter to be learned men, and capable to give full satisfaction in matter of curiosities of all sorts. This latter part I much doubt of, considering the principal end of such men's voyages, which is to propagate their faith, and to greaten and enrich themselves by their craft; though I deny not, but some of them are also ingenious, and curious in matters of a philosophical nature; but those that are so, are I doubt obliged, or at least think themselves so, to discover such observations to their own tribe, and would, I believe, be unwilling to communicate them to heretics, except they were sure they should be very well requited for it. Mean time, I can do no less than acquaint the Society with so civil an offer; and if they will be at the charge of such a commerce, and shall judge it beneficial to their design, I am ready to extend my service that way.

In the aforesaid *Italian* journal (which they call *Il Giornale de Letterati*) are contained, 1. An account (but a very slender one) of the book of *Florentine* Experiments. 2. An account of some ecclesiastical books, and a book of the lives of painters by *Carlo Dati*. 3. Observations *della stella rinascente nel collo della balena li* 14. *Giennaro* 1668. *b.* 2. *n.* 5. (I think it was about the same time that you, Sir, and Dr. *Wallis*, observed the same star at *Oxford*.) 4. Observations made upon a great fish, dissected in the *Parisian* academy. (This was printed long ago in one of the Transactions.) 5. An extract out of the

Journal

Journal of *England*, (ſo they miſcall the Tranſactions) concerning a way of keeping a dog alive without the motion of his lungs, by keeping them only extended with freſh air.

IF this way of printing journals ſpread over all, we may have a good general intelligence of all the learned trade, and its progreſs.

FROM *Caën* in *Normandy*, I received lately this anatomical account.

On a fait icy la diſſection des yeux d'une taupe. Il eſt certain, que la peau eſt ouverte & fenduë à l'endroit des yeux, ce qu'on n'avoit pas remarqué icy auparavant. L'oeïl eſt enveloppé dans les membranes, dont la peau eſt compoſée. Il n'eſt pas plus gros, que la teſte d'une petite eſpingle. Il eſt obſcur & noir, horſmis quand il eſt regardé ſelon ſon axe oppoſé au jour. Car eſtant vû en ce ſens là, l'axe & ſes environs paroiſſent tranſparens. L'ayant ouvert, on n'y remarqua pas de chriſtallin; mais cela eſt ſi petit, qu'on s'y peut tromper. Il ne paroit point non plus de nerf optique parmy les petits muſcles, qui y eſtoient attachez. Il n'y a point d'orbite au crane; mais l'une des cavitez, qui ſont proche de l'os zygoma, luy ſervent d'orbite. On a deſſein de deſſecher le crane, & d'examiner ce qui eſt dans la teſte. Cette diſſection ſe fera encore plus exactement.

CONCERNING grafting, this is added: *On à fait greffer des contes les plus bizarres, pour voir ce qui en arrivera. Ce qui ſervira non ſeulement à connoitre juſques où la nature peut aller en la multiplication des vegetaux, mais encore à augmenter le nombre des fruits.*

AT our laſt meeting we had the ſight of a new kind of large furnace for hatching of chickens; as alſo a new cyder-preſs engine, to make cyder with more expedition: both are to be put into practice, which will try their ſufficiency.

MR. *Glanvill* hath ſolicited it ſeveral times (though I have, I think, mentioned it but once to you) that you would favour him with ſome queries for the *Bath*, he not judging himſelf to be philoſophical enough to deviſe matter of his own. But I ſee we muſt leave this to your better leiſure. I ſhall endeavour to get an extract of the charter of the *Engliſh Hamburgh* merchants, and when I have got it, it will quickly be ſent you from,

SIR,

your very humble ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

THE *French* act craftily. They will doubtleſs ſurprize the *Spaniards*; but I hope they will not us in the Channel, becauſe we have abroad about twenty frigates, and are equipping twenty-five more. The *French* king courts the whole electoral college highly, and would have them the mediators of the peace; of which thing I am apt to believe he thinks no farther, than to amuſe his antagoniſts with it.

SIR,

I CANNOT yet obey you in delivering your letter for Sir *John Finch*, nor your book to be ſent to prince *Leopold*, becauſe the one is not yet returned to *London*, nor the other come to my hands; neither have I given your letter to Mr. *Povey*, wherein the *Ethiopian* gentleman is concerned, finding that by reaſon of my long ſilence, who made him diffident of the ſucceſs of his deſires, he hath let fall the deſign of that voyage, and before the arrival of your intended favour (which notwithſtanding he is very ſenſible of) engaged himſelf another way for this winter. The other ſtranger, who is a hard ſtudent in phyſic and chemiſtry, and a great friend to that philoſophy, that explicates things by mechanical and intelligible principles, will be very glad to hear your objections againſt his menſtruum, and will be found, I think,

think, pretty ready to ſatisfy ſome of them; though he pretends not to make that liquor to be the ſame with the grand alkaheſt, but analogous thereunto. Another gentleman, that came not long ago from *Paris* hither, preſented me with a ſmall treatiſe, but of a big title, bidding all the world to make bone-fires, becauſe henceforth merchants and ſeamen ſhall be enabled to ſail againſt wind and tide, huſbandmen to plough without horſe or oxen, all that uſe waggons, mills, watches, *&c.* to make all thoſe machines to move inceſſantly and of themſelves. To the perpetuum mobile he joins the promiſe of the quadrature of the circle, the ſecret of longitudes, the cauſes of the reciprocation of the ſea, of the winds, and of intermitting fevers. I believe, himſelf was in a continual raving one, when he wrote this piece, conſidering the commonneſs of what he ſaith, and the flatneſs of his ſtyle, eſpecially the confidence and oſtentation, wherewith he delivers all, pretending, that he carries away the bell from the renowned prince of *Mirandola*, that anſwered upon all things known, and ſaying, that himſelf can anſwer to things not known, and untie Gordian knots, and reſolve inſoluble queſtions: yet the philoſopher's ſtone he will not meddle with, becauſe he eſteems that ſecret, if diſcovered and divulged, would prove more pernicious than beneficial. But I will leave this advocate (for that is his profeſſion at *Rouen*) to plead for his own dotage, and tell you what it more credible, *viz.* that the *Spaniſh* embaſſador, the count of *Fuenſaldagna*, refuſed the king of *France* his preſent, which was a diamond of 50,000 livres, becauſe that king refuſed to ſee him by reaſon of the late ceremonious ſcuffle between the two embaſſadors here at *London:* and that *Fouquet* is rendered every day more and more odious, by reaſon of the farther diſcoveries that are made of his deſigns and intrigues, to remove the queen-mother of *France* for the compaſſing of his ambitious ends.

SEVERAL of the chief of our *Greſham* Society, and among them the preſident, being out of town, I went not yeſterday thither, thinking there would be little or no company. I hope we ſhall ſhortly enjoy yours here, and have then a ſhare in that, which your phyſic will not permit him to have now, who is,

SIR,

your faithful and humble ſervant,

H. O.

MR. *Herringman* preſents his humble ſervice to you, and ſaith, that Mr. *Browne* is ſo inconſiderate, as to offer him, in good earneſt, loſs for the *Latin* books of Eſſays: whereupon I told him, that he needs not to be haſty, nor pin the book upon any, being ſure he will want no opportunity in time, to diſperſe it with great advantage.

WHEN I was going to ſeal this, a porter brought me from *Warwick-Lane* two copies of your *Latin* pneumatical book, whereof I ſhall immediately deliver one to Mr. *Herringman*, to have it princely bound up, the other I know not whom it is for, ſeeing you left one with me very handſomely bound up for Sieur *Viviani*.

SIR, *London, March* 30, 1668.

I AM as well obliged to you, as M. *Paiſen*, for the philoſophical entertainment given him. The fame of the Society riſeth very high abroad, and makes ſtrangers flock hither in troops; inſomuch that ſince this *March* I have had no leſs than two dozen travellers addreſſed to me, whereof ſome make quick diſpatch, others ſtay longer; and of this latter ſort you have now and then your ſhare, and perhaps a greater than you care for. I have not yet had time to read *Bartholinus*'s three and four centuries and experiments; but I have peruſed, ſome weeks ago, *Barbatus de ſanguine*,

ſanguine, &c. in order to mention him in the Tranſactions, but I found I had no room for him, nor had I ſince. I have alſo ſeen the *Obſerv. Anatom. Coll. privati Amſtel.* and *Sanguerdius de Tarantula*, and I may find place to ſay ſomething of this laſt in the next book. However, Sir, my thanks are the ſame to you for naming them to me, as if I had known nothing of them. I am now contriving a method to ſettle my correſpondence with *Rome*; and I have a proſpect, if God bleſs us, of a compendious way of fetching in for the Society whatever is ingenious, curious, and new, from the moſt conſiderable and moſt civilized parts of the world, *ni deſit rerum gerendarum nervus.*

I WAS lately offered alſo to correſpond with the new academy of experimenters at *Caen* by the means of Monſieur *Huetius*, of whom they write me from *Paris*, *que c'eſt un homme d'eſprit, & capable de faire beaucoup de choſe.* And it is added, *que monſieur Colbert a promis auſſi un fonds à cette nouvelle academ. de Caen pour faire des experiences, & que, ſi on ne fait rien en France, il ne tiendra pas au roy, qui contribue autant qu'il peut pour aider ceux, qui ont envie de bien faire.*

THIS, methinks, ſhould be lodged and improved in a proper place here; but that we want zeal and induſtry, and conſequently muſt needs fall under them in a ſhort time.

THE *Pariſians* have made lately a diſſection of a camel, where they ſay they have obſerved no inconſiderable particulars; and thoſe of *Caen* have made the diſſections of the eye of a hawk, and of the body of an oiſter; which, I find, are like to be publiſhed ere long.

MONSIEUR *Sluſius* at *Liege* ſent me lately a large letter, by which I find his readineſs of giving us an account of what enquiries we ſhall make about their country, eſpecially mines, Spaw-water, immature and volatile metals, of divers ſorts of coals, ſuch as take fire quickly, and are alſo quickly conſumed, and others of a contrary quality. And after he hath given me in his letter a general deſcription of the country, he concludes that part thus; *Et hæc quidem ὡς ἐν τύπῳ dicta ſufficiant. Exequar uberius & per partes, cùm quòd potiſſimùm vobis gratum futurum eſt, indicaveris.*

AFTER this he comes to yourſelf, Sir, in theſe words:

Indici nuper in viri nobiliſſimi R. Boylii experimenta phyſica, (ſerò enim ſimiles deliciæ ad nos perveniunt) in quibus cùm ea legerem, quæ de natura fluiditatis ac firmitatis obſervat vir nunquam ſatis laudatus, rediit in memoriam experimentum olim à me factum non abſimile illi, quod commemorat, p. 129. (which in the *Engliſh* is p. 231.) *de liquore ſcil. qui calore non magno fluiditatem, & levi frigore firmitatem adipiſcitur. Salinus nempe eſt, ex nitro fixo per deliquium ſoluto, ſeu Glauberi alcaheſto, & ſpiritu chalcanthi præparatus. Si enim liquores illos ſimul junxeris, & ſalem precipitatum ſiccaveris, ac demum adhibito ſpiritu chalcanthi, quantum opus erit, eundem diſſolveris, hic liquor leviſſimo frigore concreſcet. Ac memini, æſtate proxime elapſâ in phiala à me ſoli expoſitum ut liqueſceret, in umbra, quamvis aurâ tunc minimè frigidâ, concreviſſe. Variis autem modis idem fieri poteſt, quorum multos cum expertus fuerim, videtur mihi fore, ut hoc ſemper accidat, mixtis, ut præſcriptum eſt, duobus ſalinis liquoribus, dummodò ex diverſæ ſpeciei ſalibus, uno volatili, altero fixo, parati ſint.*

MAY not ſuch liquor as this be of good uſe in thermometers?

FOR ſtate news this:

Tout ſe prepara à la guerre; neantmoins officiers craignent la paix. On n'entend plus parler de D. Jean. Le roy pourra prendre encore quelques bonnes places cette campagne, & avancer tousjours; les Eſpagnols n'eſtans pas en eſtat de luy reſiſter, ny de tenir la campagne. On mande de Hollande, qu'on y fait de grands preparatifs, & qu'on croit, que la paix ne ſe fera pas.

L'Eveſque

L'Eveſque de Munſter marchera contre Meſſ. les Eſtats, quand le roy ſera en Flanders.

Si la reyne d'Eſpagne continue à ne vouloir point ouïr parler de tracter ſur le pied de l'alternative, la paix ne ſe pourra pas faire.

On a veu à Bayonne une comete, & en Provence auſſi. Un Jeſuite l'a veuë auſſi à Lyon; mais perſonne ne l'a obſervée icy à Paris.

On me doit envoyer de Caen des ſels, qui ont eſté tirés de la roſée, ou du moins une relation exacte de ce qu' a fait ſur cela un chemiſte fort habile. I am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, April* 7, 1668.

MONSIEUR *Paiſen* gave me his farewel on *Saturday* laſt, and ſeemed to be very well pleaſed with the commiſſion I gave him, for ſeveral philoſophical matters, to be enquired after and promoted in *Germany*. There is a very able man, by deſcription, at *Hamburgh*, a diſciple of *Jungius*, and a keeper of that able man's unpubliſhed papers. Among other things, I have by a letter to that perſon urged the diſſection and edition of thoſe manuſcripts, eſpecially his animadverſions upon *Gaſſendus* and *Deſcartes*, and his thoughts upon our *Verulam*; as alſo his collections concerning arts and trades, of which I hear he had made conſiderable ones. I hope I ſhall receive a good account of theſe particulars, by the procuration of the ſaid M. *Paiſen*, who preſented me at his departure with a copy of the diſputation he held at *Leyden, pro gradu, de humorum vitiis, eorumque reſtitutione*; wherein I meet with things that pleaſe me not a little.

I AM obliged to write very ſhortly to M. *Sluſius*, to return him thanks for his communications, and to give him an account of ſome things he deſired to be informed about. I am ſorry I am not like to make your deſigned queries about the mines of his country one of the ingredients of my letter.

MR. *Colepreſſe* is gone, I think, by this time to *Holland*. In his laſt letter he relates, that lately pleaſuring a perſon of honour, by compoſing a barometer and ſome thermometers for him, he met with a pleaſing obſervation, relating to your experiments of the nephritic wood in Hiſtory of Colours; where ſpirit of vinegar is inſtanced for deſtroying of blue colour; but, contrary to his expectation, brandy did the work, and ſpirit of harts-horn recovered it again. He inſerts in the ſame letter ſome obſervations made about apple-trees, and for preſerving young fruit; as alſo ſome odd relations concerning a ternary and quaternary of teſticles found in father and ſon, and odd monſtroſities in that country, and unuſual peculiarities of nature in ſome perſons there, which would be too long and tedious to tranſcribe. I reſerve them till your happy return, which, I hope, will now be ſo very ſhortly, that by your next you will forbid me writing any more.

I HAVE made ſeveral applications about the *Engliſh Hamburgh* merchants charter; and am now promiſed to have a ſight of it to-morrow, and I hope alſo permiſſion to make an extract out of it.

THE *French* letters do ſtill aſſure me of the encouragements, which their philoſophers receive for experiments. They have lately diſſected at *Caen* a Macreuſe, whereof they relate ſeveral particulars, to be imparted when you ſhall be here.

FOR ſtate-news they write thus:

On ne parle plus que de guerre. Les gardes ſont deſia parties; le roy s'en ira à la fin du mois (Avril) cependant on ne laiſſe pas de negotier. Le bruit court, que les vaiſſeaux de D.

Jean ont eſté diſſipez par la tempeſte. Cette nouvelle à beſoin de confirmation. Les Hollandois ſe preparent, & font tout ce qu'ils peuvent pour detourner la guerre de leur frontiere, & pour conſerver les places des Eſpagnols, qui ſont dans leur voiſinage. La Suede offre 12,000 *hommes à ceux, qui ſe ſont ligués enſemble contre nous, moinnant* 60,000 *eſcus par mois. Vous ne manquerez pas de voſtre coſté de contribuer, comme les autres, par mer & par terre, & ainſi la guerre ſe fera tout de bon. Avec tout cela, l'armée de France eſt forte, & le roy à deux generaux, qui n'ont pas leurs pareils dans l'Europe. Il n'y à que Monſieur Wrangel, qui leur puiſſe eſtre comparé. D. Jean n' à pas aſſez d'experience pour reſiſter à deux capitaines conſommés comme eux. Il y à bien de l'apparence, que le roy ſera encore maitre de la campagne; mais il aura plus de peine que l'année paſſée. Les Suiſſes ſont mal contents, mais on les conte pour rien. L'empire ſera ſpectateur de la tragedie. L'empereur ne dit mot; mais on croit pourtant, que ſoubs main il agit auſſi. Le temps nous decouvrira bien des choſes. Dieu ſur tout.*

I HAVE not yet received Dr. *Needham*'s letter. I hope I ſhall uſe it ſo, as may rather appeaſe, than exaſperate; who am,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. O.

OUR good friend Dr. *Beale* preſents his very humble ſervice to you with very affectionate expreſſions; and ſaith, that he utterly diſowns to have any power with M. *Glanvill* in his laſt writings, ſince he wrote againſt dogmatiſing.

SIR, *London, April* 14, 1668.

THE foſſils, moſt to be met with in the country of *Liege*, are cadmia, alum, chalcanthum viride, ferrum, plumbum, and ſtibium, but mixed with much lead: it abounds alſo with marl, chalk-ſtones, pit-coal; which latter are of two ſorts, one catcheth fire eaſily, and by a kind of melting ſhews to hold ſtore of bitumen; the other, taking fire and conſuming more ſlowly, melting not at all, and hath a ſulphureous ſmell. There are alſo marble, and tranſparent ſtones, both white and amethyſtin; and ſeveral Spaw-waters, not uſed by reaſon of the want of convenient lodgings, yet of no leſs virtue than thoſe that are.

DR. *Needham*'s letter is indeed material, and ſuggeſts ſeveral good experiments, which will invite me to preſent it to the Society, if M. *Hook*, whom I intend to ſhew it firſt, ſhall not earneſtly expreſs himſelf to be concerned for the not doing it. It ſeems that I am by him thought guilty of having miſtaken his notion of ſanguification; which, I confeſs, I cannot well ſee, when I compare, the ſecond time, my expreſſions of p. 516. with his p. 172, 173.

I THINK, it is not any matter of doubt, whether your notes and ſuggeſtions about experiments of reſpiration will be welcome to the Society; nay, I am ſure they will be both ſerviceable and pleaſing to them; and I ſhall take care, that they be kept from being publiſhed any other way, than you take or order to be taken yourſelf.

ALL your experiments concerning the light in ſhining wood and fiſh, and the effects of air on them (which you enriched the Tranſactions with) the *French* have taken into their laſt journal, which is, in the greateſt part of it, made up of them, done handſomely enough, and with taking due notice of the worth of their author. This you will ſee at their return, among other things; of which Sir *R. Southwell*'s collections in *Portugal*, both as to written accounts, and divers curioſities, will make no ſmall part.

I CANNOT

I CANNOT yet give you any account of the *Hamburgh* merchants charter, becauſe the perſon I engaged it in, has not yet performed his word; which neglect is now ſo common, that it maketh a man altogether ſhy to promiſe any thing, wherein there is a dependance on another.

IT ſeems, it is certain, that a new comet hath been lately ſeen in other parts. From Dom. *Caſſini* at *Bononia* came to me this account:

A. 1668. *d.* 10. *Martii h.* 1. *noctis ſequent. obſervavi lucis ſemitam, à ceto per Eridanum extenſam, quam cometæ caudam judicavi tum ex figura & colore, tum quòd ejus directio, imaginatione continuata, producere videret ad gr.* 21. *piſcium, ubi tunc ſol erat, & proinde in partem ſibi oppoſitam vergeret, more aliorum cometarum. Apice pertingebat ad ſtella in Eridano, quæ* 14. *dicitur à Bayerio. Egrediebatur autem è nubibus horizontalibus, ita ut cenſerem, cometæ caput vel iiſdem condi, vel infra horizontem latere. Sequebatur motum diurnæ revolutionis ad occaſum, conſpicique potuit ad hor.* 2. *noctis; tunc verò inter horizontales nebulas demerſa eſt.*

D. 11. *veſpere, apparuit inter nubes horizontis humidiores poſt hor.* 1. *noctis.*

D. 12. *veſperi, nubes humiliores partem cœli occidentalem occupabant, cumque cœlum mediaret Sirius, apparuit rurſus eadem cauda. Tranſibat per ſtellam in Eridano,* 14. *Bayero, relinquebatque ad auſtrum* 14. *ad quam d.* 10. *terminabatur, producebaturque ulterius.*

Ad tres circiter gradus, ulteriuſque per imaginationem producta, mediante filo, arcu tenſo, dirigebatur ad auſtraliorem in præcedente auriculam leporis: ſeptentrionalior igitur erat, quàm nudius tertius, & orientalior, pariterque in plagam ſoli oppoſitam vergebat.

Ad occidentem ejus regreſſio erat è nubibus; itaque utrum ab iis occultaretur caput cometæ, an infra horizontem lateret, incertum; linea autem à Jove ad terminum caudæ in nubibus erat ipſi caudæ perpendicularis. Erat igitur in ceto, & caudæ pars apparens protendebat grad. 32. *circiter.*

THE ſtone, I think, I formerly mentioned to have been taken out of a horſe at *Paris* (of four pound four ounces and an half weight) was found in a fatty membrane over againſt the kidneys, faſtened in two places to the ſpine; and had ſuch a poliſh, that it reflected images.

I RECOMMEND the incloſed to the care of your ſervant for Dr. *Needham*, and remain,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

SIR, *London, July* 27, 1668.

THE incloſed from monſieur *Paiſen* came to my hands on *Saturday* laſt, under a cover of the ſame perſon to myſelf, together with a letter from monſieur *Fogel*, at *Hamburgh* (one of the diſciples of the famous *Jungius*) who tells me of the pains he taketh, in promoting the publication of the manuſcripts of that learned man; and in particular his *Phoranomica*, *Hiſtoria Inſectorum*, *Hiſtoria Naturalis ſimilarium Corporum*, *Hiſtoria Plantarum*, & *ad eam Iſagoge Phytoſcopica*, and then his *Apollonius Saxonicus*. But he complains of the great want of patrons to encourage and aſſiſt in that work, and of the difficulty of getting ſcholars to labour in the digeſting and tranſcribing of thoſe papers; uſing theſe words:

Cùm nobis deſint præmia philoſophica, adoleſcentes noſtri omnes properant ad facultates, quas vocant, lucroſas, theologiam puta juris prudentiam & medicinam, philoſophiæ ſtudio planè neglecto.

I HAD uſed ſome words in my letter to him, preſſing my wiſhes for the erecting of an experimental ſociety of philoſophers in *Germany*. To that he anſwers: *Perjucaſſi-*

mum tibi habe, vix aliquem mortalium tam impensè desiderare similem cœtum in Germania, quàm meipsum. Et jam plusculi anni sunt, quod de erigenda tali societate laboravi. Imò cùm Romæ viverem, collegi insignem Lynceorum historiam, nunquam hactenus editam, cujus primus tomus, præter historiam Originis ejus, continet integrum Lynceographum principis Cæsii, in quo plura quæ societati vestræ utilia esse possunt. Sed cùm vestra societas ditissimis abundet patronis (This is *fallacia compositionis & divisionis*; there are amongst us many, that are rich enough; but where are the rich patrons?) *& legatum suum rex Angliæ hac in urbe alat, nunquid hic sperari poterit fundatio alicujus collegii parvi, quod à majori vestro dependeat? Hoc olim erat societatis principis Cæsii institutum, habere sc. in Italia, Germania, Gallia, Polonia, &c. varia collegia, quæ à se, Romano principe, dependerent.*

WHAT an honour would that be for *England*, if, when foreign nations should offer to enter into such learned societies, and they depend from the Royal they might receive encouragement from hence? But it were vanity to flatter one's self with such hopes.

I INTEND, God willing, very shortly to return an answer both to M. *Paisen* and M. *Fogel*; and if you please, Sir, to have something of yours conveyed in the same packet, I shall take the same care of it, I do of my own.

I HAVE heard nothing from *Oxford* concerning the printing of the *Latin* Hydrostatics, nor the continuation of the Pneumatic Experiments; nor is Mr. *Crook* forward in printing the *Latin* History of Cold; yet he promises, that between this and *Michaelmas* it shall be done.

AT *Paris* the philosophers are busy in dissections; and so they are at *Caen*, where chiefly they anatomise fishes; among which, they have lately dissected a sturgeon, whereof I have a large account, too long to be inserted here. They are examining more and more the circulation in plants; and say, *Qu'il faut placer le centre de la circulation des plantes à l'endroit, où s'assemblent les branches de la racine, qui est justement l'endroit le premier formé: car coupez le tronc de l'arbre jusques aupres de la terre, il repoussera des branches; coupez les racines, si le tronc des recines demeure entier, l'arbre ne mourra point, mais coupez cette partie, toute la plante mourra infalliblement. C'est donc là proprement qu'il faut placer le principe de la circulation.*

AT our Society, we are still upon the mixing of different bodies, and of incorporating them into one another, to explore the weight of the total, and of the ingredient parts. We have also begun to examine the life of birds in free and compressed air: and for the trial of the duration of their life in free air, we take birds of the same kind, and put them up in close vessels of differing capacities; to see what proportion the duration of their life holds to the quantity of common, though close air, they live in. Lately we fell upon the examination of pendulums, which was occasioned by a proposition advanced by *Borelli de vi percussionis*, who seems to assert; "That the line of a pendulum being stopped by a pin or other thing in the perpen- "dicular line any where, the bullet holds on its motion beyond the perpendicular "(though in another circle) to near the altitude of the small horizontal line, from "whence it fell, decreasing after the same velocity, in which it before accelerated, "*viz.* moving like spaces in proportionable times, accounted from the perpendicular "each way, where the two circles unite." Some of our Society judge it to be true, and are labouring to find the demonstration for it.

SIR, this was accompanied with the *Unum Necessarium* of honest *Comenius*. I can guess what will be thought of it and the preface. Oblige me, I pray, to present my very humble service to my lady *Ranelagh*, and all the other noble company, where now you are.

SIR, your very humble servant,

H. O.

PARDON my hasty scribble. SIR,

SIR, *London, July* 10, 1674.

I HEREWITH take the liberty of ſending you my tract of *June*, which, I hear, my lord chief juſtice *Hale* ſent for, almoſt as ſoon as it was out of the preſs, and at which, I think, he cannot juſtly be offended in reference to what concerns him, though ſome inconſiderate men give out, that he will upon occaſion reſent the non-acknowledgment of greater worth in his book; which humour I can hardly think ſuch a man capable of.

CONCERNING Dr. *Coxe*'s diſcourſe, though I did once intend to take notice in theſe papers of the concurrence of your thoughts with his in ſome particulars; yet upon hearing you ſay, when I mentioned it to you, that you conceived he did not interfere with you in theſe obſervations, I altered my purpoſe. Mean time, I have delivered your papers about the hidden qualities of the air to Mr. *Pitt*, who ſaith, he will get them printed with all convenient ſpeed, and hopes as well as I, you will find ſome other ſuitable ſubject to join with that, and thereby to give the book a juſter bulk.

I HEAR ſome very learned and knowing men ſpeak very ſlightly of the *quinque Tractatus* of *J. M.* and a particular friend of yours and mine told me yeſterday, that as far as he had read him, he would ſhew to any impartial and conſidering man more errors than one in every page.

SIR, there is come to my hands ſince you left *London*, but little philoſophical news from abroad. My lord *Herbert* writes me from *Blois*, that a phyſician of *Aix* in *Provence* hath promiſed to indicate an herb to him, by the juice of which a man's hand dipped in molten lead ſhall not be burnt, nor ſcarce feel any conſiderable heat.

MONSIEUR *Auzout* writes thus from *Rome*; *Que les cheveux ſont crûs de la moitié d'un doigt à un criminel, à qui on à donne la veglia, qu'il à ſoufferte* 12 *heures. C'eſt une eſpece de queſtion fort douleureuſe. On à remarqué, que les patients ſuent quelquefois de telle ſorte, que l'eau coule de leur corps un ruiſſeau, & qu'ils enflent par tout le corps apres un certain temps.*

MONSIEUR *Juſtel* relates in his laſt letter to me; *Qu'il y à Paris un gentilhomme, qui, apres une grande colique, à jetté pars les ſelles un animal fait comme un poiſſon, qui eſt en petit de la forme d'un Dauphin, une matiere qui eſt comme une pierre & du bois; & qu'il y avoit auſſi du pourpier, & du cerfeuil & des mouches. Il ſouffre de grandes douleurs, & continue à vuider ces ſortes de matieres là. Les medicins ne ſçavent qu'en dire, & ſont ſurpris de cette aventure. Ce mâl l'a pris à Bezançon, & à continué juſques à preſent.*

THE political news, he adds, are theſe: *Les Hollandois ſe ſont retirez de Belle Iſle ſans rien faire. M. de Turenne à repaſſé le Rhin pour aller combatre les ennemis. M. le Conte de Tot eſt icy, ce qui fait eſperer, que le traitté de paix ſe pourra renouër, quoy qu'il y ait peu d'apparence. Les Allemands ſont tousjours ſur la Meuſe. Apparemment ils ne feront pas plus de choſes que les Hollandois. On à eſcrit de Suratte, que M. de la Haye, qui eſt à St. Thomé, à defait dix mille Indiens avec* 500 *hommes, & brulé Maſulipatan: ce qui à beſoin de confirmation.*

THE news come from *Windſor*, is, that the *French* king hath written to our king, that M. *de Turenne*, in a ſecond fight, hath quite routed the *Lorainer* and his adherents. But our letters affirm, that the *Germans* being in march againſt *Turenne*, and he hearing of it, marched with all diligence to meet them; and having ſurpriſed them by appearing in battalia and good order, when they were not ready, cauſed them to retreat; whereupon he was encouraged to follow them, cutting off a conſiderable number of their rear, and taking five or ſix pieces of cannon, and purſuing them to the very gates of *Franckfort*; and now threatening to beſiege either *Heidelberg* or *Frankendal*. Unfortunate country!

Extract

Extract out of Mr. NEWTON's *letter written to* H. O. *from* Cambridge, April 26, 1676.

YESTERDAY reading the two last Philosophical Transactions, I had the opportunity to consider *R. B.*'s uncommon experiment about the incalescence of ☉ and ☿. I believe the fingers of many will itch to be at the knowledge of the preparation of such a ☿; and for that end, some will not be wanting to move for the publishing of it, by urging the good it may do in the world. But in my simple judgment the noble author, since he hath thought fit to reveal himself so far, does prudently in being reserved in the rest. Not that I think any great excellence in such a ☿, either for medical or chemical operations; for it seems to me, that the metalline particles, with which that ☿ is impregnated may be grosser than the particles of the ☿, and be disposed to mix more readily with the ☉ upon some other account than their subtilty; and then in so mixing their grossness may enable them to give the parts of the gold the greater shock, and so put them into a brisker motion than smaller particles could do: much after the manner that the saline particles, wherewith corrosive liquors are impregnated, heat many things, which they are put to dissolve, whilst the finer parts of common water scarce heat any thing dissolved therein, be the dissolution never so quick; and if they do heat any thing, (as quick lime) one may suspect, that heat is produced by some saline particles lying hid in the body, which the water sets on work upon the body, which they could not act on whilst in a dry form. I would compare therefore this impregnated ☿ to some corrosive liquor, (as aqua fortis) the mercurial part of the one to the watery or phlegmatic part of the other, and the metallic particles, with which the one is impregnated, to the saline particles, with which the other is impregnated; both which I suppose may be of a middle nature between the liquor which they impregnate, and the bodies they dissolve, and so enter those bodies more freely, and by their grossness shake the dissolved particles more strongly, than a subtler agent would do. If this analogy of these two kinds of liquors may be allowed, one may guess at the little use of the one by the indisposition of the other, either to medicine or vegetation. But yet, because the way by which ☿ may be so impregnated, hath been thought fit to be concealed by others, that have known it, and therefore may possibly be an inlet to something more noble, not to be communicated without considerable damage to the world, if there should be any verity in the hermetic writers; therefore I question not, but that the great wisdom of the noble author will sway him to silence, till he shall be resolved of what consequence the thing may be, either by his own experience, or the judgment of some other, that thoroughly understands what he speaks about, that is, of a true hermetic philosopher, whose judgment (if there be any such) would be more regarded in this point, than that of all the world besides to the contrary, there being other things besides the transmutation of metals (if those great pretenders brag not) which none but they understand. Sir, because the author seems desirous of the sense of others in this point, I have been so free as to shoot my bolt.

SIR, *Crayford* in *Kent*, *Sept.* 19, 1676.

SINCE the trouble, still given me by my tenant, will not suffer me to return with my family to *London* on the day mentioned to you, I thought to let you know so much by these lines, and withal to assure you, that the version of your book into *Latin* doth go on here as well as if I were in town. I wish only that Mr. *Pitt* be as ready to print, as I intend to be, God willing, to deliver him copy. If it be possible, we shall be all at *London* on *Tuesday* or *Wednesday* of the next week. I pray, Sir, to let little

little *Tom* carry the incloſed to my houſe, and to tell the maid, ſhe muſt deliver the letter he carries to her, to her brother immediately, the matter requiring haſte. Almighty God bleſs you, and confirm your health for many years, for the public good, and the particular concern and joy of,

SIR,

your very humble and faithful ſervant,

H. OLDENBURG.

LETTERS *from* JOHN EVELYN, *Eſq*; *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Noble SIR, *Say's-Court, May* 9, 1657.

I SHOULD infinitely bluſh at the ſlowneſs of this addreſs, if a great indiſpoſition of body, which obliged me to a courſe of phyſic, and ſince an unexpected journey (from both which I am but lately delivered) had not immediately intervened, ſince you were pleaſed to command theſe trifles of me. I have omitted thoſe of braſs, *&c.* becauſe they properly belong to etching, and ingraining, which treatiſe, with five others, (*viz.* painting in oil, in miniature, ancaling in glaſs, enamelling, and marble paper) I was once minded to publiſh (as a ſpecimen of what might be farther done in the reſt) for the benefit of the ingenious. But I have ſince been put off from that deſign, not knowing whether I ſhould do well to gratify ſo barbarous an age (as I fear is approaching) with curioſities of that nature, delivered with ſo much integrity as I intended them; and, leſt by it I ſhould alſo diſoblige ſome, who make thoſe profeſſions their living; or, at leaſt, debaſe much of their eſteem by proſtituting them to the vulgar. Rather, I conceived, that a true and ingenious diſcovery of thoſe, and the like arts, would, to better purpoſe, be compiled for the uſe of that mathematico-chymico-mechanical ſchool, deſigned by our noble friend Dr. *Wilkinſon*; where they might (not without an oath of ſecrecy) be taught to thoſe, that either affected, or deſired any of them; and from thence (as from another *Solomon*'s houſe) ſo much of them made public, as ſhould, from time to time, be judged convenient by the ſuperintendent of that ſchool, for the reputation of learning, and benefit of the nation: and upon this ſcore, there would be a moſt willing contribution of what ingenious perſons know of this kind; and to which I ſhould moſt freely dedicate what I have. In the mean time, Sir, I tranſmit you this varniſh; and ſhall eſteem myſelf extremely honoured, that you will further command whatſoever elſe of this, or any other kind, is in the power of,

SIR,

your moſt humble and
moſt obedient ſervant,

EVELYN.

I BESEECH you, Sir, to make my moſt humble ſervice acceptable to Dr. *Wilkinſon*; and that you be pleaſed to communicate to me, what ſucceſs you have, in the proceſs of this receipt (myſelf not having had time to examine it) that in caſe of any difficulty, I may have recourſe to the perſon from whom I received it.

Honoured SIR, *Say's-Court, Aug.* 9, 1659.

I AM perfectly aſhamed at the remiſſneſs of this recognition for your late favours from *Oxon:* where (though had you reſided) it ſhould have interrupted you before this time. It was by our common and good friend Mr. *Hartlib*, that I come now

to

to know you are retired from thence; but not from the muſes, and the purſuit of your worthy deſigns, the reſult whereof we thirſt after with all impatience; and how fortunate ſhould I eſteem myſelf, if it were in my power to contribute in the leaſt to that, which I augure of ſo great and univerſal a benefit! But ſo it is, that my late inactivity has made ſo ſmall a progreſs, that, in the Hiſtory of Trades, I am not advanced a ſtep; finding (to my infinite grief) my great imperfections for the attempt, and many ſubjections, which I cannot ſupport, of converſing with mechanical capricious perſons, and ſeveral other diſcouragements; ſo that, giving over a deſign of that magnitude, I am ready to acknowledge my fault, if from any expreſſion of mine there was any room to hope for ſuch a production, farther than by a ſhort collection of ſome heads and materials, and a continual propenſity of endeavouring in ſome particular, to encourage ſo noble a work, as far as I am able, a ſpecimen whereof I have tranſmitted to Mr. *Hartlib*, concerning the ornaments of gardens, which I have requeſted him to communicate to you, as one, from whom I hope to receive my beſt and moſt conſiderate furniture; which favour I do again and again humbly ſupplicate; and eſpecially, touching the firſt chapter of the third book, the eleventh and twelfth of the firſt; and, indeed, on every particular of the whole. Sir, I thank you for your receipts: there is no danger I ſhould proſtitute them, having encountered in books, what will ſufficiently (I hope) gratify the curioſity of moſt, when in my third I ſpeak of the elaboratory. But I remit you to what I have written to Mr. *Hartlib*, and begging pardon for this preſumption, crave leave to remain,

SIR,

your moſt humble and obedient ſervant,

EVELYN.

SIR, do you know whether *Campanella* has ſaid any thing concerning altering the ſhape of fruits, *&c.* and how I may obtain the peruſal of *Benedicti Curtii Hortorum, Lib.* 30. *Lugd.* 1560. *fol.?*

Noble SIR, *Say's-Court, Sept.* 3, 1659.

TOGETHER with theſe teſtimonies of my chearful obedience to your commands, and a faithful promiſe of tranſmitting the reſt, if yet there remain any thing worthy your acceptance amongſt my unpoliſhed and ſcattered collections, I do here make bold to trouble you with a more minute diſcovery of the deſign, which I caſually mentioned to you, concerning my great inclination to redeem the remainder of my time, conſidering, *quam parum mihi ſuperſit ad metas*; ſo as may beſt improve it to the glory of God Almighty, and the benefit of others. And ſince it has proved impoſſible for me to attain to it hitherto (though in this my private and mean ſtation) by reaſon of that fond morigeration to the miſtaken cuſtoms of the age, which not only rob men of their time, but extremely of their virtue and beſt advantages; I have eſtabliſhed with myſelf, that it is not to be hoped for, without ſome reſolutions of quitting theſe incumbrances, and inſtituting ſuch a manner of life for the future, as may beſt conduce to a deſign ſo much breathed after, and, I think, ſo advantageous. In order to this, I propound, that ſince we are not to hope for a mathematical college, much leſs a *Solomon*'s houſe, hardly a friend in this ſad *Catalyſis*, and *inter hos armorum ſtrepitus*, a period ſo uncharitable and perverſe; why might not ſome gentlemen, whoſe geniuſes are greatly ſuitable, and who deſire nothing more than to give a good example, preſerve ſcience, and cultivate themſelves, join together in ſociety, and reſolve upon ſome orders and œconomy, to be mutually obſerved, ſuch as ſhall beſt become

the

the end of their union, if, I cannot ſay, without a kind of ſingularity, becauſe the thing is new; yet ſuch at leaſt, as ſhall be free from pedantry, and all affectation? The poſſibility, Sir, of this is ſo obvious, that I profeſs, were I not an aggregate perſon, and ſo obliged, as well by my own nature, as the laws of decency, and their merits, to provide for my dependents, I would chearfully devote my ſmall fortune towards a deſign, by which I might hope to aſſemble ſome ſmall number together, who would reſign themſelves to live profitably and ſweetly together. But ſince I am unworthy ſo great a happineſs, and that it is not now in my power; I propoſe, that if any one worthy perſon, and *queis meliore luto*, ſo qualified as Mr. *Boyle*, will join in the deſign (for not with every one, rich, and learned, there are very few diſpoſed, and it is the greateſt difficulty to find the man) we would not doubt, in a ſhort time (by God's aſſiſtance) to be poſſeſſed of the moſt bleſſed life, that virtuous perſons could wiſh or aſpire to in this miſerable and uncertain pilgrimage, whether conſidered as to the preſent revolutions, or what may happen for the future in all human probability. Now, Sir, in what inſtances, and how far this is practicable, permit me to give you an account of, by the calculations, which I have deduced for our little foundation.

I PROPOSE the purchaſing of thirty or forty acres of land, in ſome healthy place, not above twenty-five miles from *London*; of which a good part ſhall be tall wood, and the reſt upland paſtures, or downs, ſweetly irrigated. If there were not already an houſe, which might be converted, *&c.* we would erect upon the moſt convenient ſite of this, near the wood, our building, *viz.* one handſome pavilion, containing a refectory, library, withdrawing room and a cloſet; this the firſt ſtory; for we ſuppoſe the kitchen, larders, cellars and offices to be contrived in the half ſtory under ground. In the ſecond ſhould be a fair lodging chamber, a pallet-room, gallery and a cloſet; all which ſhould be well and nobly furniſhed, for any worthy perſon that might deſire to ſtay any time, and for the reputation of the college. The half ſtory above for ſervants, wardrobes, and like conveniencies. To the entry fore front of this a court; and at the other back front a plot walled in of a competent ſquare, for the common ſeraglio, diſpoſed into a garden: or it might be only carpet, kept curiouſly, and to ſerve for bowls, walking, or other recreations, *&c.* if the company pleaſe. Oppoſite to the houſe, towards the wood, ſhould be erected a pretty chapel; and at equal diſtances (even with the flanking walls of the ſquare) ſix apartments or cells, for the members of the Society, and not contiguous to the pavilion, each whereof ſhall contain a ſmall bed-chamber, an outward room, a cloſet, and a private garden, ſomewhat after the manner of the *Carthuſians*. There ſhould likewiſe be an elaboratory, with a repoſitory for rarities and things of nature; aviary, dove-houſe, phyſic-garden, kitchen-garden, and a plantation of orchard fruit, *&c.* all uniform buildings, but of ſingle ſtories, or a little elevated. At convenient diſtance towards the olitory garden ſhould be a ſtable for two or three horſes, and a lodging for a ſervant or two. Laſtly a garden-houſe and conſervatory for tender plants.

THE eſtimate amounts thus. The pavilion 400*l.* chapel 150*l.* apartments, walls, and outhouſing 600*l.* The purchaſe of the fee for thirty acres, at 15*l.* *per* acre, eighteen years purchaſe, 400*l.* The total, 1550*l.* 1600*l.* will be the utmoſt.

THREE of the cells or apartments, that is, one moiety, with the appurtenances, ſhall be at the diſpoſal of one of the founders, and the other half at the other's.

IF I and my wife take up two apartments (for we are to be decently aſunder, however I ſtipulate, and her inclination will greatly ſuit with it, that ſhall be no impediment to the Society, but a conſiderable advantage to the œconomic part) a third ſhall be for ſome worthy perſon; and to facilitate the reſt, I offer to furniſh the whole pa-

vilion compleatly, to the value of 500 *l.* in goods and moveables, if need be, for ſeven years, till there be a public ſtock, *&c.*

THERE ſhould be maintained, at the public charge, only a chaplain, well qualified, an ancient woman, to dreſs the meat, waſh and do all ſuch offices; a man to buy proviſions, keep the garden, horſes, *&c.* a boy to aſſiſt him, and ſerve within.

AT one meal a day, of two diſhes only (unleſs ſome little extraordinary upon particular days, or occaſions, then, never exceeding three) of plain and wholſome meat; a ſmall refection at night: wine, beer, ſugar, ſpice, bread, fiſh, fowl, candle, ſoap, oats, hay, fuel, *&c.* at 4 *l. per* week, 200 *l. per ann.* wages 15 *l.* keeping the gardens 20 *l.* the chaplain 20 *l. per ann.* Laid up in the treaſury yearly 145 *l.* to be employed for books, inſtruments, drugs, trials, *&c.* The total 400 *l.* a year, comprehending the keeping of two horſes for the chariot, or the ſaddle, and two kine: ſo that 200 *l. per ann.* will be the utmoſt that the founders ſhall be at, to maintain the whole Society, conſiſting of nine perſons (the ſervants included) though there ſhould no others join, capable to alleviate the expence: but if any of thoſe, whoſe deſire to be of the Society be ſo qualified, as to ſupport their own particulars, and allow for their proportion, it will yet diminiſh the charge; and of ſuch there cannot want ſome at all times, as the apartments are empty.

IF either of the founders thinks expedient to alter his condition; or that any thing do *humanitus contingere*, he may reſign to another, or ſell to his collegue, and diſpoſe of it as he pleaſes; yet ſo as it ſtill continue the inſtitution.

ORDERS.

AT ſix in ſummer prayers in the chapel. To ſtudy till half an hour after eleven. Dinner in the refectory till one. Retire till four. Then called to converſation (if the weather invite) abroad, elſe in the refectory. This never omitted, but in caſe of ſickneſs. Prayers at ſeven. To bed at nine. In the winter, the ſame, with ſome abatements for the hours; becauſe the nights are tedious, and the evenings converſation more agreeable. This in the refectory. All play interdicted, *ſans bowls*, *cheſs*, *&c.* Every one to cultivate his own garden. One month in ſpring a courſe in the elaboratory on vegetables, *&c.* In the winter a month on other experiments. Every man to have a key of the elaboratory, pavilion, library, repoſitory, *&c.* Weekly faſt. Communion once every fortnight, or month at leaſt. No ſtranger eaſily admitted to viſit any of the Society, but upon certain days weekly, and that only after dinner. Any of the Society may have his commons to his apartment, if he will not meet in the refectory, ſo it be not above twice a week. Every *Thurſday* ſhall be a muſic meeting at converſation hours. Every perſon of the Society ſhall render ſome public account of his ſtudies weekly, if thought fit, and eſpecially ſhall be recommended the promotion of experimental knowledge, as the principal end of the inſtitution. There ſhall be a decent habit and uniform uſed in the college. One month in the year may be ſpent in *London*, or any of the univerſities, or in a perambulation for the public benefit, *&c.* with what other orders ſhall be thought convenient, *&c.*

THUS, Sir, I have in haſte (but to your loſs not in a laconic ſtile) preſumed to communicate to you (and truly, in my life, never to any but yourſelf) that project, which for ſome time has traverſed my thoughts; and therefore, far from being the effect either of being an impertinent or trifling ſpirit, but the reſult of mature and frequent reaſonings. And, Sir, is not this the ſame that many noble perſonages did at the confuſion of the empire by the barbarous *Goths*, when St. *Hierome*, *Euſtochium*, and others, retired from the impertinencies of the world to the ſweet receſſes and

ſocieties

ſocieties in the eaſt, till it came to be burthened with the vows and ſuperſtitions, which can give no ſcandal to our deſign, that provides againſt all ſuch ſnares?

Now to aſſure you, Sir, how pure and immixed the deſign is from any other than the public intereſt, propounded by me, and to redeem the time to the nobleſt purpoſes; I am thankfully to acknowledge, that, as to the common forms of living in the world, I have little reaſon to be diſpleaſed at my preſent condition; in which, I bleſs God, I want nothing conducing either to health, or honeſt diverſion, extremely beyond my merit; and therefore would I be ſomewhat choice and ſcrupulous in my collegue; becauſe he is to be the moſt dear perſon to me in the world. But oh! how I ſhould think it deſigned from heaven, and *tanquam numen* διοπετὲς, did ſuch a perſon as Mr. *Boyle*, who is alone a ſociety of all that were deſirable to a conſummate felicity, eſteem it a deſign worthy his embracing! Upon ſuch an occaſion, how would I proſtitute all my other concernments! how would I exult! and, as I am, continue, upon infinite accumulations and regards,

SIR,

his moſt humble, and

moſt obedient ſervant,

EVELYN.

IF my health permit me the honour to pay my reſpects to you, before you leave the town, it will bring you a rude plot of the building, which will better fix the idea, and ſhew what ſymmetry it holds with this deſcription.

SIR, *Say's-Court, Sept.* 29, 1659.

I SEND you this incloſed, the product of your commands, but the leaſt inſtance of my ambition to ſerve you: and when I ſhall add, that if an oblation of whatever elſe I poſſeſs, can verify the expreſſion of my greater eſteem of your incomparable book; which, as indicted with a pen ſnatched from the wing of a ſeraphim, exalts your divine incentives to that height, that being ſometimes raviſhed with your deſcription of that tranſcendent ſtate of angelical amours, I was almoſt reconciled to the paſſion of *Cleombratus*, who threw himſelf into the water upon the reading of *Plato*; and (as deſpairing to enjoy it) ready to cry out with St. *Paul*, *cupio diſſolvi*, and to be in the embraces of this ſeraphic love, which you have deſcribed to that perfection, as if in the company of ſome celeſtial harbinger, you had taken flight, and been raviſhed into the third heaven, where you have heard words unutterable, and from whence you bring us ſuch affections and divine inclinations, as are only competent to angels and to yourſelf: for ſo powerful is your eloquence, ſo metaphyſical your diſcourſe, and ſublime your ſubject. And though by all this, and your rare example, you civilly declaim againſt the miſtakes we married perſons uſually make; yet I cannot think it a paralogiſm or inſiduous reaſoning, which you manage with ſo much ingenuity, and purſue with ſo great judgment. But certainly it was an extraordinary grace, that at ſo early years, and amidſt the ardours of youth, you ſhould be able to diſcern ſo maturely, and determine ſo happily; avoid the Syren, and eſcape the tempeſt: but thus, when the curioſity of *Pſyche* had lighted the taper, and was reſolved to ſee what ſo ardently embraced her, ſhe diſcovered an impertinent child, the weakneſs and folly of the paſſion. You, Sir, found its imperfections betimes; and that men then ceaſed to be wiſe, when they began to be in love, unleſs with you they could turn nature into grace, and at once place their affections on the right object. But, Sir, though you ſeem tender of the conſequence all this while, the concluſion

will ſpeak as well as your example; that though you have ſaid nothing of marriage, which is the reſult of love; yet you ſuppoſe, that it were hard to become a ſervant without folly; and that there are ten thouſand inquietudes eſpouſed with a miſtreſs. That the fruits of children are tears and weakneſs, whilſt the productions of the ſpirit put their parents neither to charge nor trouble; that all theſe heroes, of whom we read, eſteemed moſt precious of the celibate. *Alexander* had no child, and *Hercules* left no heir: *Pallas* was born of the brain of *Jupiter*; and the *Venus Urania* of the *Platoniſts* made love only to the ſoul, which ſhe united to the eſſence of God (according to their divinity) and had no lower commerce than what you ſo worthily celebrate in your book, and cultivate in your life. But though theſe were all true, and all that you have added, ſince I find the paſſion of *Lindamore* rather to be pitied, than criminal, becauſe *Hermione*'s was not reciprocal; though ſhe were cruel, the ſex is tender, and amiable; pious and uſeful, and will never want champions to defend their virtues, and aſſert their dues, and that is our love and our ſervice. For if it be virtuous, it is ſeraphical; and whatever can be objected againſt it, proceeds from the vices of the perſon's defect, or extremes of the paſſion. But you inſtance in the jealouſies, diſeaſes, follies, and inconſtancies of love: the ſenſual truly is obnoxious to all theſe; but who have been the martyrs, where the deſign was not plainly brutiſh, indifferent to the education, or blinded with avarice? And if you have example of their hatred and perfidy, I can produce a thouſand of their affection and integrity. What think you, Sir, of *Alceſte*, that ran into the funeral pile of her huſband? The goodneſs of *Æmilia*, the chaſtity of *Lucretia*, the faith of *Furia*, of *Portia*, and infinite others who knew nothing that the Chriſtian inſtitution has ſuperadded? And the Scriptures are full of worthy examples, ſince it was from the effects of conjugal love, that the Saviour of the world, and that great object of ſeraphic love derived his incarnation, who was the ſon of *David*. Take away this love, and the whole earth is but a deſert; and though there were nothing more worthy eulogies than virginity, it is yet but the reſult of love, ſince thoſe that ſhall people paradiſe, and fill heaven with ſaints, are ſuch as have been ſubject to this paſſion, and were the products of it. In ſum, it is by that the church has conſecrated to God both virgins and martyrs, and confeſſors theſe five thouſand years; and he that ſaid it was not good for man to be alone, placed the celibate amongſt the inferior ſtates of perfection, whatſoever ſome affirm; ſeeing that of St. *Paul* is not general, and he confeſſes, he had no command from the Lord. It was the beſt advice in a time of perſecution, the preſent diſtreſs, and for an itinerant apoſtle; and truly it is what I ſo recommend to all of that function, that, for many regards, I could wiſh them all as ſeraphims, who do neither marry, nor are given in marriage. But I cannot conſent, that ſuch a perſon as Mr. *Boyle* be ſo indifferent, decline a virtuous love, or imagine that the beſt ideas are repreſented only in romances, where love begins, proceeds, and expires in the pretty tale, but leaves us no worthy impreſſions of its effects. We have nobler examples: and the wives of philoſophers, pious and ſtudious perſons, ſhall furniſh our inſtances: for ſuch was *Pudentilla*, that held the lamp to her huſband's lucubrations: ſuch a companion had the learned *Budæus*; and the late adventure of madam *Grotius*, celebrated by her *Hugo*, who has not heard of? We need not go abroad; the committee chambers, and the parliament lobby, are ſad, but evident teſtimonies of the patience, and the addreſs, the love, and the conſtancy of theſe gentle creatures. In fine, they bear us out of love, and they give us ſuch; they divert us when we are well, and tend us when we are ſick; they grieve over us when we die, and ſome I have known, that would not be comforted and ſurvive. But, Sir, *Ludov. Vives* has written a volume on this ſubject, and taken all his hiſtories from the love of Chriſtan women. *Jacobus*

bus de Voragine gives us twelve motives to acknowledge the good we receive by them, and I could add a thousand more, were not that of *Pliny inſtar omnium*, who writing to his mother-in-law *Hiſpulla*, that brought his lady up, gives her this character. *Summum eſt acumen, ſumma frugalitas: amat me, quod caſtitatis indicium eſt. Accedit his ſtudium literarum, quod ex mei charitate concepit. Meos libellos habet, lectitat, ediſcit etiam. Qua illa ſolicitudine, quum videor acturus; quanto, quum egi, gaudio afficitur?* and a little after, *Verſus quidem meos cantat, formatque cithara, non artifice aliquo docente, ſed amore, qui magiſter eſt optimus:* whence he well foreſees, *perpetuam nobis majoremque indies futuram eſſe concordiam:* diſcourſing in that which follows, of the nobleneſs and purity of her affection, with this elegant and civil acknowledgment, *certatim ergo tibi gratias agimus: ego, quod illam mihi: illa, quod me ſibi dederis, quaſi invicem delegeris.* And what if Mr. *Boyle* himſelf did love ſuch a lady, *gratâ aliqua compede adſtrictus*, would it hinder him from the ſeraphic, or the purſuit of his worthy enquiries? There is no danger that he ſhould be taught philoſophy as *Socrates* was, who already commands his paſſions, and has divinity ſufficient to render even *Zantippe* a ſaint; and whoſe arguments for the ſeraphic love would make all men to envy his condition, and ſuſpect their own, if it could once be admitted, that thoſe who are given to be *auxilia commoda*, ſhould hinder them in the love of God, whereof marriage is a figure: for ſo the apoſtle makes the parallel, when he ſpeaks of the ſpouſe, *Epheſ.* v. and devotion is ſo generally conſpicuous in the female ſex, that they furniſh the greater part of many litanies, and, whom if we may not pray to, we ought certainly to praiſe God for; not ſo much becauſe they were virgins, as that they were the mothers and the daughters of the greateſt ſaints, and lights of the church, who propagated the ſeraphic love with their examples, and ſealed it with their blood. But, dear Sir, miſtake me not all this while, for I make not this recital, as finding the leaſt period in your moſt excellent diſcourſe prejudicial to the conjugal ſtate; or that I have the vanity to imagine my forces capable to render you a proſelyte of *Hymen*'s, who have already made the worthieſt choice; much leſs to magnify my own condition, and lay little ſnares for thoſe obvious replies, which return in compliments, and odious flatteries. I have never encountered any thing extraordinary, or dare lay claim to the leaſt of the virtues I have celebrated: but if I have found the converſation capable of exalting and improving our affections, even to the higheſt of objects, and to contribute very much to human felicity; I cannot pronounce the love of the ſex to be at all miſapplied, or to the prejudice of the moſt ſeraphical. And if to have the fruition and the knowledge of our friends in heaven, will be ſo conſiderable an augmentation of our felicity; how great is that of the married like to prove, ſince there is not on earth a friendſhip comparable to it? Or if paradiſe and the ark be the moſt adequate reſemblances of thoſe happy manſions, you may remember there were none but couples there, and that every creature was in love.

BUT why do I torment your eyes with theſe impertinencies! which would never have end, did I not conſider, I am but writing a letter, and how much better you are wont to place your precious hours. But, Sir, I have now but a word to add, and it is to tell you, that if after all this we acknowledge your victory, and find all our arguments too weak to conteſt with your ſeraphical object, pronounce you wife, and infinitely happy; yet, as if envying, that any elſe ſhould be ſo; you have too long concealed the diſcourſes, which ſhould have gained you diſciples, and are yet not afraid to make apologies for employing that talent, which you cannot juſtify the wrapping up all this while in a napkin. We therefore, that are entangled in our miſtakes, and acknowledge our imperfections, muſt needs declare againſt it, as the leaſt effects of a ſeraphic lover, which were to render all men like himſelf. And ſince there

there is now no other remedy, make the beſt uſe we can of, as St. *Paul* adviſes, *ut qui habent uxores, ſint tanquam non habentes, &c.* and for the reſt, to ſerve and to love God as well as we may in the condition we are aſſigned; which if it may not approach to the perfection of Seraphims, and that of Mr. *Boyle*, let it be as near as it can, and we ſhall not account ourſelves amongſt the moſt unhappy, for having made ſome virtuous addreſſes to that fair ſex.

DEAREST Sir, permit me to tell you, that I extremely loved you before; but my heart is infinitely knit to you now: for what are we now to expect from ſo timely a conſecration of your excellent abilities? The Primitiæ ſanctified the whole harveſt; and you have at once, by this incomparable piece, taken off the reproach which lay upon piety, and the enquiries into nature; that the one was too early for younger perſons, and the other the ready way to atheiſm, than which, as nothing has been more impiouſly ſpoken, ſo, nor has any thing been more fully refuted. But, Sir, I have finiſhed; pardon this great exceſs; it is love that conſtrains me, and the effects of your diſcourſes, from which I have learned ſo many excellent things, that they are not to be numbered, and merited with leſs than I have ſaid, and than I profeſs, which is to continue all my life long,

SIR,

your moſt humble, obliged,

and moſt affectionate ſervant,

J. EVELYN.

SIR, *Say's-Court, Sept.* 13, 1661.

I SEND you the receipt of the varniſh, and believe it to be very exact; becauſe it is ſo particular, and that I received it from the hand of a curious perſon, who, having made trial of it himſelf, affirms it to have ſucceeded. I ſend you alſo another trifle, which has a nearer relation to me; and you will eaſily pardon my indignation, however you pity the reſt of my errors, to which there is ſuperadded ſo great a preſumption: not that I believe what I have written ſhould produce the deſired effects; but to indulge my paſſion, and in hopes of obtaining a partial reformation; if, at leaſt, his majeſty purſue the reſentment, which he lately expreſſed againſt this nuiſance, ſince this pamphlet was prepared. Sir, I am your creditor for *Schotti*, and ſhall faithfully render it whenever your ſummons calls: my leiſure has not yet permitted me to tranſcribe ſome things out of it, which concerns me on another ſubject; but if the detaining of it longer be no prejudice to you, it is in a ſafe depoſitum. Sir, I have not bought two of your laſt books, and yet (poſſibly) I could render you ſome account of them. My thirſt and impatience is too great to ſhew the leaſt indifferency, when any thing of yours is to be had: this does not abſolve you from making him a preſent, who (it may be) takes no greater felicity in the world, than to ſee his ſmall library enriched with your illuſtrious works, and they to come to me *ex dono authoris*. Deareſt Sir, pardon this innocent ſtratagem, and the preſumption of,

SIR,

your moſt faithful, and

moſt obedient ſervant,

J. EVELYN.

SIR, I muſt take this opportunity to give you thanks for your great civilities to my couſin *Baily*, and to ſupplicate the continuance of your favour to him, as by which you will infinitely oblige an induſtrious and deſerving gentleman.

SIR,

SIR, *Say's-Court, Nov.* 23, 1664.

THE honour you design me, by making use of that trifle, which you were lately pleased to command an account of, is so much greater than it pretends to merit, as indeed it is far short of being worthy your acceptance: but if by any service of mine in that other business, I may hope to contribute to an effect the most agreeable to your excellent and pious nature, it shall not be my reproach, that I did not my best endeavour to oblige it. I do every day, both at *London* and at home, put Sir *Richard* in mind of this suppliant's case; and, indeed, he needs no monitor, myself being witness, that he takes all occasions to serve him in it; nor wants there any dispositions, (so far as I can perceive) but one single opportunity only, the meeting of my lord privy seal, (who, for two or three council days, has been indisposed, and not appeared) to expedite his request; there being a resolution (and which Sir *Richard* promises shall not slacken) both to discharge the poor man's engagements here, and afford him a competent viaticum.

As for that sacred work you mention, it is said, there is a most authentic copy coming over, the laudable attempt of this person being not so fully approved. This is, in short, the account I have, why the impression is retarded. I should else esteem it one of the most fortunate adventures of my life, that by any industry of mine, I might be accessary in the least to so blessed an undertaking.

IF my book of architecture do not fall into your hands at *Oxon*, it will come with my apology, when I see you at *London*; as well as another part of the *Mystery of Jesuitism*, which (with some other papers concerning that iniquity) I have translated, and am now printing at *Royston*'s, but without my name.—So little credit there is in these days, in doing any thing for the interest of religion!

I KNOW not whether it becomes me to inform you, that is has pleased his majesty to nominate me a commissioner, to take care of the sick and wounded persons during this war with our neighbours: but so it is, that there being but four of us designed for this very troublesome and sad employment, all the ports from *Dover* to *Portsmouth*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, fall to my district alone, and makes me wish a thousand times I had such a collegue as Mr. *Boyle*, who is wholly made up of charity, and all the qualifications requisite to so pious a care. But I cannot wish you so much trouble, the prospect of it would even draw pity from you, as well in my behalf, as for the more miserable, who foresee the confusion and importunities of it, by every article of our busy instructions. But the king has laid his positive commands on me; and I am just now going towards *Dover*, &c. to provide for mischief. Farewel, sweet repose, books, gardens, and the blessed conversation you are pleased to allow,

Dear Sir,

your most affectionate, and
most obedient servant,

J. EVELYN.

P. S. Mr. *Goldman*'s dictionary is that good and useful book, which I mentioned to you.

HERE is Mr. *Stillingfleet*'s new piece in vindication of my lord of *Canterbury*'s. I have but little dipped into it as yet: it promises well, and I very much like the epistle; nor is the stile so perplexed as his usually was. Dr. *Mer. Casaubon*, I presume, is come to your hands, being a touch upon the same occasion.

ONE *Rhea* has published a very useful and sincere book, concerning the culture of flowers, *&c.* but it does in nothing reach my long since attempted design of that entire

entire ſubject, with all its ornaments and acceſſories; which I had ſhortly hoped to perfect, had God given me opportunity.

YOUR ſervant, my wife, moſt humbly kiſſeth your hands, as I do Dr. *Barlow*'s, &c.

SIR, *Say's-Court, April* 13, 59.

HAVING the laſt year drawn a good quantity of the eſſence of roſes, by the common way of fermentation; and remembering how ſoon it went away, amongſt the ladies, after they had once ſcented it; the ſeaſon of flowers now approaching, makes me call to mind, to have known it ſold by ſome chemiſts (and in particular by one *Longſire* at *Chicheſter*) mixed with a ſubſtance not unlike it; which retained the odour of it wonderful exactly; but in ſuch a proportion, that for ſeven or eight ſhillings a ſiſter of mine was uſed to purchaſe more than any man living can extract out of three or four hundred weight of roſes, by the vulgar, or *Glauber*'s preparation: by which means, that precious eſſence may be made to ſerve for many ordinary uſes, without much detriment. Sir, I am bold to requeſt of you, that if you know what it is (for if you know it not, I deſpair of encountering it) you will be pleaſed to inſtruct me; and, in lieu thereof, to command me ſome ſervice, by which I may teſtify my great ambition to obey you, and how profoundly ſenſible I remain of my many obligations to you, which I ſhould not have been thus long in expreſſing, had I not apprehended, how importune letters are to ſtudious perſons, where the commerce is ſo jejune; and that I can return you nothing in exchange, for civilities I have already received. Sir, I have reaſon to be confident, that you are upon ſome very glorious deſign, and that you need no ſubſidiaries, and therein you are happy; make us ſo, likewiſe, with a confirmation of it; that ſuch as cannot hope to contribute any thing of value to the adornment of it, may yet be permitted to augure you all the ſucceſs, which your worthy and noble attempts do merit; in the mean time, that ſome domeſtic afflictions of mine have rendered me thus long uſeleſs, both to my friends, and to myſelf; which I wiſh may be thought a juſt apology for,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt obedient ſervant,

J. EVELYN.

SIR, I know the impoſtors multiply their eſſence of roſes with *ol. lig. Rhodii*, others with that of *Ben*; but it can be neither; for the oil of roſe-wood will vanquiſh it exceedingly, neither is it ſo fluid; and the other grows rancid. Some have told me, it was ſperma-ceti, which I have not eſſayed.

YOUR commands will at any time find me, directed to the Hawk and Pheaſant upon *Ludgate-hill*, at one Mr. *Saunders*'s, a woollen-draper.

Letters from Sir ROBERT SOUTHWELL *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Kingſale, July* 16, 1658.

I AM ſorry I cannot return a more ſuitable acknowledgment unto your favours, than what a ſorry piece of paper will expreſs; and yet in thanks (the moſt eaſy way of gratitude) I find a ſcarcity, when I judge of your courteſies by a proper and due valuation. I can only hope, that I may live to be grateful, and to have opportunity of manifeſting, that your favours have not been caſt into a forgetful hand. And to that

purpoſe I ſhall implore my better fortune to make me ſerviceable unto you, if it ſhould happen, that any of your occaſions ſhould ſtoop ſo low, as that my impertinent endeavours might contribute any thing to their advantage. My moſt humble ſervice to my lord *Dungarvan* and his brother. My mother and ſiſter (who are only now at home) preſent their humble reſpects unto you, and ſo, begging your pardon, I reſt

your moſt obedient ſervant,

ROBERT SOUTHWELL.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Florence, Oct.* 10, 1660.

HAVING now paſſed three months at *Florence*, and the ſeaſon giving me liberty to enter *Rome*, I ſhall, before I leave this place, give you ſome account of the time I have here ſpent, as the perſon, whoſe favour my chiefeſt ambition has always courted. At my firſt arrival here, obſerving ſo rare a frame of government, for order and harmony, more like that of a family, than of a commonwealth; and underſtanding, that all perſons ought to live here as upon the ſtage; ſo exact a knowledge, and ſo common a reſort is the prince's ear, of all particulars that paſs; I thought it requiſite, for the arriving unto ſome kind of admiſſion in the court, wanting the benefit of friends, to ſettle my reputation in a lower claſs. And obtaining entrance into a meeting of the virtuoſi, I alſo put in an oar, and ſhot my bolt among them; and then got not only the occaſion of chooſing good acquaintance, but heard, that at the court ſome favourable words paſſed of me; ſo that thence I took hint to go and make my reverence to the great duke, and ſome time after to prince *Leopold* his brother; who certainly is a perfect *Mæcenas*, not only the patron to all that pretend to letters, but alſo admirably knowing, and illuminated himſelf. The truth is, I was treated by his highneſs, according to the ſtandard of his goodneſs, not my ſorry merit; having admiſſion by his favour to partake of the magnificent ſolemnity at his academy of the *Cruſca*, where both the body and the mind had an incomparable regale. Beſides the invitation I had to come every night to the palace, and view the ſtars, eſpecially *Saturn*; whereof his highneſs took ſpecial obſervations, according to *Eugenius*, having proſpective glaſſes of nine ells long. But, in fine, his highneſs's darling ſtudy is that of natural experiments, for the proſecution of which he has a ſelect company, that with him every morning make a private academy. He was pleaſed to aſk me of thoſe in *England*, that have the vogue, as to that kind of application. And having named two or three, I finally repreſented unto his highneſs, in thoſe ſlender terms I was able, the imperfect character of Mr. *Boyle*; for whom I can aſſure you his highneſs expreſſed ſo great a paſſion to be acquainted, that letting him know he was as much a maſter of civility as knowledge, and that I believed I might be the mediator of a correſpondence, his highneſs told me, that I would engage myſelf in a very grateful embaſſy. So that to tell you the naked truth, the incloſed, that I here ſend you, is written in *Florence* (though dated from abroad) with deſign to be ſent unto you within this of mine; but with pretext directed to me, that ſo the prince may a little keep ſtate, and yet ſecure your correſpondence.

THE perſon that writes the letter, is the duke's chief mathematician, a perſon of an admirable clear head, very great ſincerity, and much eſteemed by them. I having, by very great favour, obtained to be his ſcholar, for my introduction into the mathematics, with the ſix firſt books of *Euclid*; he deſired my advice in the preſenting ſome of his books to the *Engliſh* virtuoſi; being a treatiſe in folio *de maximis & minimis*, and a divination or ſupplement of what is wanting of *Apollonius*. There are half a dozen ſent away to be ſhipped at *Leghorn*, he having ſuperſcribed the firſt unto

yourself. He was *Galilæus*'s scholar three years, and the only one that is now living. I shall mention more of him to Mr. *Oldenburg*. And being most confident, that if you shall please to embrace this occasion of correspondence with the prince, it will highly redound, not only to your own satisfaction, but even a general advancement of learning; and I shall number it among the felicities of my life, that I was but instrumental unto so great a good.

I AM sure there will pass the communication of great secrets between you, although I do remember the prince told me, that they searched not so much after particular experiments, as those fundamental ones, that augmented the limits of nature. They are here at present very intent on extracting the salts from all kind of things, and do, by the help of glasses, draw the perfect figures of all; and these observations at large are made, that the most pointed salts come from the more sour or bitter herbs or roots; and from sweet herbs more blunted salts are extracted. Those herbs, *&c.* that afford the most sharp and edged salts, are of fiercest operation in physic. The others, that have not so much edge to cut and penetrate the humours, are of less activity. And the duke's design is, to find a way for the administering these salts in physic, mixing them with things more congenial unto nature, than their own drug, which operates nothing after this separation.

I HOPE in my next to send you two or three very good experiments, which I have now in chace. And I am trying, if it be possible, to obtain the secret of the incombustible cloth; which is in the hands of a friar of *Genoa*, that made for the cardinal here many fine things, purses, hatbands, handkerchiefs, lace, *&c.* I have sent you a bit of the thread, and a shred of the paper he made. But I understand, that he was wonderfully shy and secret when he wrought here.

I HAVE one of the *Bologna* stones (*spongia lucis*) ready calcined, which truly I forgot to put into the box, or you had received it together with signior *Viviani*'s books. I have also fine stones uncalcined, which shall be at your service, given me, when I was at *Bologna* (and seeing of *Aldrovandus*'s cabinet) by Dr. *Ovidio Montalbano*, the antiquary, with whom I held correspondence, and can serve you in that place in what you please.

THE prince has correspondence with monsieur *Bullialdus*, and others of *Paris*, unto whom he punctually repays all their addresses. So that if you please to write to the prince, under cover to signior *Viviani*, for the first time, taking notice to this of the present of his book, and to the prince, of the notice I gave you, of his courteous inclination to your acquaintance, you will find all things afterward run in a prompt and smooth channel. For besides what I mentioned of you myself, they found afterwards a piece that Dr. *Wallis* dedicated to you, the epistle whereof was very consonant with what I had said.

NOBLE Sir, I might have proposed this affair in more studied terms of my respect. But at this age of your acquaintance, and most benign condescension towards me, I cannot but know, how much your goodness outbids all my faults. If this winter, at *Rome*, I may receive your commands in any nature, you will infallibly find me,

Noble Sir,

your most devoted, and most obedient servant,

ROBERT SOUTHWELL.

Worthy SIR, *Rome*, *March* 30, 1661.

ALTHOUGH I have not the happiness to hear from you, yet the fresh resentment that I have of your past civilities, keeps me still to an observance of my duty and gratitude. From *Florence*, the last summer, I wrote unto you; and at the same

ſame time the mathematician of the great duke, a perſon of excellent qualities, ſent you one of his books; and I was in hopes, that long before this time there would have been a firm correſpondence between you, for it is deſired here; and on the other ſide I know you have no averſion to it, but rather a genius to confer with all perſons, that are ſingular in their kinds.

THERE is certainly ſome unhappineſs arrived in the buſineſs, and I am ſorry for it.

I HAVE now ſpent ſome months at *Rome*, and to my very great ſatisfaction, having viſited and made acquaintance with ſeveral perſons of great excellency in this place; of which hereafter I ſhall be ready to give you an account.

FATHER *Kircher* is my particular friend, and I viſit him and his gallery frequently. Certainly he is a perſon of vaſt parts, and of as great induſtry. He is likewiſe one of the moſt naked and good men that I have ſeen, and is very eaſy to communicate whatever he knows; doing it, as it were, by a maxim he has. On the other ſide, he is reputed very credulous, apt to put in print any ſtrange, if plauſible, ſtory, that is brought unto him. He is philoſopher enough, to give ſome kind of reaſon or other for whatſoever you will demand of him. He has often made me ſmile, to ſee how he will fetch about things; as concerning the *Soland* gooſe in *Scotland*, he argues thus, that the *Dutchmen*, that went to *Nova Zembla*, ſaw on the ice near the North Pole ſuch quantity of eggs, that were ſufficient to feed all *Europe*; now the ice coming to melt, and theſe eggs to drop into the ſea, they there lie at the mercy of the waves, they turn the ſea into ſuch a caudle, that thoſe iſlands that are moſt near, as in particular *Scotland*, come to receive ſome of theſe eggified waves daſhing againſt them. Now if it happen, that certain trees are ſo favourably planted near the ſhore, as that the ſparkling and drops of ſuch waves light on and ſoak into them, it may ſo fall out, that, by the ſpecific virtue of the eggs, ſtill inherent in ſuch water, the natural vegetation of the tree, and the omnipotent influence of the ſun, all theſe combining together, may hatch a *Soland* gooſe. What you will ſay to this pedigree, I do not know. The truth is, the father has ſtrange ſtories, as to generation. He told me of a wench, that after long complaint, felt ſomething crawling in one of the great muſcles of her back; which being opened, there hopped out a frog. The reaſon he aſſigns, that the ſmock of this maid being where the frogs came to ſport, ſome kind of ſperma fell on it; which after, by the heat of the girl's back (as girls are warm) was attracted in between ſome muſcles, and there nouriſhed, till the ſurgeon played the midwife.

As to the flower growing from its aſhes, he had ſuch a thing, but it is now ſpoiled; he made it not himſelf, but it was given him. However he has given me the receipt thereof, upon a ſwop, wrote with his own hand; it is long and intricate, and of a nice preparation. At our meeting you ſhall have it.

ALL the queſtions you bid me aſk him, he affirmed to me in the ſame manner, as you find them written. As to the *ſpelunca ſerpentum*; he is out, to attribute the cure to the licking of the ſerpents; for being, a while ſince, about twenty miles off, hunting with cardinal *Urſino*, his eminence ſhewed me the place, at ſome diſtance, on his own land; ſaying there was a hole, of ſome capacity, which, in the ſummer time, when the air was favourable, did make people ſweat that went into it, by a kind of mineral vapour that does ariſe (as at *Naples* there are two or three.) In the ſame place are alſo many ſerpents, which crawling about, and finding a man ſweating, lick the moiſture they find on him (he lying with a hollow glaſs over his face.) But all this does nothing; for if one would ſtand in the hole, with a ſtick, while the other ſweat, and beat away the ſerpents, and wiped the body with a cloth, the ſame ſucceſs would follow. This the cardinal himſelf told me, with whom I ſtaid two or three days. He is a perſon of great curioſity and infinite civility.

I FORGOT to tell you from *Florence*, of a pretty humour, obſerved in two flowers there; the one is yellow in the morning, and about noon turns red. The other has no ſmell at all till at an hour in the night, and then for an hour it begins to ſmell with great fragrancy; and ſo to ceaſe till the night following.

SIR, about the latter end of this ſummer, I hope to kiſs your hands in *London*. Mr. *Sidney*, that lives very handſomely here, and in great eſteem, ſince he quitted his charge in *Denmark*, talks often of you when we meet. I much deſire to hear from you, which I may do, if you ſend your letters Mr. *Stanye*, merchant in St. *Mary Axe*, *London*.

SIR, I kiſs your hands, and with all affection (and in very good health) I reſt,

your moſt humble ſervant,

ROBERT SOUTHWELL.

Noble SIR, *Dublin*, *Aug.* 12, 1662.

I AM eaſily convinced, that I cannot do myſelf a greater courteſy, than to manifeſt, at what diſtance ſoever I am, the ſignal value and veneration I have towards you; eſpecially conſidering how happy a portion of your civilities, and peculiar kindneſs, have fallen, as the ſucceſs of thoſe paſſions, unto me.

I AM only unhappy, that I am in no hope of having any other title to your friendſhip, than that of a long acquaintance; ſince an unfortunate backwardneſs makes me unuſeful to you in any point of commerce: and if you had not that rare practice of ſelf-denial, whereby you unbend yourſelf to the level of ordinary converſations, I ſhould not reach the leaſt degree of that intereſt I am now ſo fortunate in.

I WISH that I might have the honour of hearing from you, while I am here, to redeem the longing I had at *London*; and to know, in fine, what is the product of our ſecret for the fuſion of cryſtal. I know your great curioſity for all trials, beſides the particular paſſion you had for the knowledge of that, has ſhewed you, by this time, the full extent of it: and, for my own part, I have ſo high an expectation from it (conſidering the manner and terms on which it was entruſted to me) that I ſhould have continued puddering myſelf till I had ſeen the end, if I had not met the warrant of ſo great and inviolable a ſecreſy, beſides the ſingular dexterity you have for it. And I was not a little confirmed in the atteſtation and effect thereof, given me by ſignior *Borrhi* (when he perſuaded himſelf obliged to reveal ſomething conſiderable unto me) that at your reading of the proceſs, you found no matter of exception, which would have certainly been obvious to you, having made ſome adventures and eſſays on that ſubject before.

IF you have made any pieces of the matter, you may pleaſe, by the opportunity of Mrs. *Johnes*, or any other that comes ſooner this way, to let me have a ſhare of it, and I ſhall be very glad to ſee it.

SIR *John Percival*, his lady, and my father, who is now here, preſent all their humble ſervices unto you, and thus, with my true reſpects unto the noble family, where you ſometimes are, I kiſs your hands, and ever am,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble,

and obedient ſervant,

ROBERT SOUTHWELL.

Moſt

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Kingſale, March* 20, 1675.

IT has often come into my mind, and indeed I thought, that I had accordingly wrote lately of it, that concern of yours, which long ſince you were pleaſed to honour me with the truſt and care of; I mean that ſtock of money, which, out of your great bounty and charity, you were pleaſed to diſtribute amongſt thoſe miniſters, that had ſerved the cures upon your impropriate eſtate in this kingdom, and of the diſtribution of which I did long ſince return you an account, and alſo what balance remained unto you, after ſatisfying all the concerned, which was forty-five pounds, and has ever ſince lain ready for your order of diſpoſal, and I have ever ſince waited for it: and I did the laſt year, when I was in *London* with my ſon, wait on you at your houſe, there to receive your orders about it, but you were not then at home, nor was my ſtay after that very long in *London*. But, methinks, it is now high time for me to conſider, whether in this long ſilence, the maſter have not forgot his ſteward; or that, which is moſt dangerous, whether the ſteward have not forgot his maſter in this account. But that muſt not be; and therefore I do here make bold to put you in mind of it; that forty-five pounds of your ſaid ſtock does yet remain in my hands, and that I do but wait for your order to diſpoſe of it; and ſhall as punctually obſerve it when it comes; and yet ſhall ſtill reckon myſelf in your debt for the honour of that truſt and employ. And with my very hearty prayers unto God for your long life and proſperity, I take leave, and remain,

Moſt honoured Sir,
your honour's moſt humble,
and faithful ſervant,
ROBERT SOUTHWELL.

LETTERS *from biſhop* BARLOW *to Mr.* BOYLE.

SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, Sept.* 13, 1659.

IT is now a good while ago ſince (in obedience to your command) I ſignified to Dr. *Sanderſon*, that in caſe he would ſeriouſly ſet himſelf to write caſes of conſcience, (1. explaining the nature of conſcience, the obligation of it, how far that extends, and the reaſons of it, with ſome univerſal principles, and general rules, concerning it, *in theſi*; and then, 2. *In hypotheſi*, to fall to the reſolving particular caſes) you would allow him fifty pounds *per annum*, to encourage him in that good work. With what thankfulneſs the good old man accepts of this your great charity (rare in any age, and unheard of in this) you may (in part) ſee by this incloſed; and, I doubt not, but the preſent age and poſterity may have juſt cauſe to bleſs God in this particular, and thank you for being the only occaſion, and ſole encourager of ſo good a work. May the gracious good God of heaven and earth bleſs you, and all thoſe pious and generous ſouls, who dare be good in bad times. This is, and ſhall be, the prayer of,

SIR,
your moſt obliged, humble ſervant,
THOMAS BARLOW.

WE have no news, ſave what this bearer (your great ſervant) can better tell, than I write. Dr. *Wilkins* is gone (*cum pannis*) to *Cambridge*, and left his great teleſcope to the library: our buſineſs now is to place Mr. *Selden*'s books, which will go near to

fill up the other end of our library: they are conſiderable for the number (about eight thouſand volumes) but more for the quality, eſpecially his oriental manuſcripts, being many, and choice.

SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, Jan.* 30, 1659.

TWO days ago, I received a letter from Dr. *Sanderſon*, with an acquittance (here incloſed) for the receipt of thoſe monies your charity was pleaſed to give him, as an honorary ſtipend and encouragement for writing caſes of conſcience. If this form (by him ſubſcribed and ſent) be not ſuch as you would have, he will cheerfully ſubſcribe any other, which your prudence ſhall think more convenient. He further deſires (as you will ſee by the incloſed piece of his letter) to know your commands, in order to his progreſs in the work, which, by your encouragement, he has undertaken; that ſo he may (as in reaſon he ſhould) conform himſelf and ſtudies to your deſires. If you have no better way to communicate your commands to him, if you ſhall be pleaſed to convey them to me, I ſhall to him. My reſpects and humble ſervice to yourſelf, my love to Mr. *Pett* (who I know will wait upon you.) God Almighty bleſs you, and all thoſe generous ſouls, who dare be charitable and good in bad times, who have munificence and courage enough to embrace virtue, though coſtly and dangerous. This is the hearty prayer of,

SIR,

your moſt obliged humble ſervant,

T. BARLOW.

Incloſed in the preceding.

I WOULD willingly know Mr. *Boyle*'s mind, whether he would rather I ſhould proceed to finiſh this work, according to the deſign exhibited in the ſcheme prefixed before the lectures, or make choice of ſome other argument; and whether in *Latin* or *Engliſh*: for I ſhall endeavour to apply myſelf to his direction for that matter, in any thing within my ſphere. I deſire my thanks and ſervices may be preſented to him; wiſh your proſperity, and reſt,

your affectionate friend,

Botheby-Paynell, Sept. 20.—59.

and humble ſervant,

ROBERT SANDERSON.

Mr. BOYLE *to biſhop* BARLOW.

My Lord,

THE commands your lordſhip was pleaſed to give me, to acquaint you with what I might hear about the conteſt between the *French* king and the pope, gives me a welcome excuſe for the liberty I take of putting you in mind of one of your old and true ſervants, who lately, upon enquiry ſolicitouſly made about the *French* affair, received an account of it, that the diſpute about the Regale ſeems rather to grow ſharper than calmer. For the laſt letters from *Paris* inform us, that there is a breve come thither from the pope to the provincial of the jeſuits, to expel father *Maimbourg* out of their order, and that the provincial carried it to the king's attorney, who acquainted the parliament with it. Whereupon there enſued either an arreſt (as they call a decree) or a reſolution ſpeedily to make one (for I do not preciſely remember which

which it was, though I think it was the former) importing, that if any order whatſoever of monks or friars ſhould receive and admit any breve from the pope, without leave from the king, they ſhould forfeit all temporalities that order poſſeſſes in *France*. It is ſaid, and very eaſily to be believed, that this doth not a little alarm and puzzle the cloiſters, particularly thoſe of the Jeſuits, who will now perhaps be put to give ſome inſtance of thoſe refined politics, that the world has long thought them maſters of. For my part, I know not what to think, if this pope be not, what I ſuppoſe your lordſhip believes moſt of his predeceſſors have been, more a bigot than a politician; but I am pretty confident, againſt the jealouſies of many here, that whether or no this conteſt will prove the cauſe of a rupture, it is not at leaſt the effect of a colluſion, which both the pope and the *French* king are too haughty to allow me to think it; and which, if it were real, would not perchance compenſate the inconveniencies, that what has been done already is like to bring upon the *Roman* ſee. But I wiſh this were all the news about matters of religion I could ſend your lordſhip out of *France*. For the day before yeſterday I was viſited by a rich knight of that country, that come purpoſely to let me know, that the *French* king was putting out a decree, (whereof within leſs than a week he might expect a copy) ordaining, that all the children of proteſtants, at the age of ſeven years, after having been for ſome days taken from their parents, who, it is pretended, might hinder the freedom of their choice, be put to declare what religion they would be of: and thoſe that ſhall embrace the *Roman*, ſhall be bred up in it in ſpite of their parents, who ſhall not have power to deny them maintenance. And this decree is to be followed by another, ordaining, that if the child of any proteſtant parent be not baptized within three days after its birth, (which in many places cannot be done, the churches being demoliſhed, and the miniſters driven away) the *Roman* catholic prieſt ſhall baptize the child, and ever after breed him in their religion. I willingly acquaint your lordſhip with theſe particulars, becauſe the knowledge I have of your zeal for proteſtantiſm in general, and your moderation towards thoſe that profeſs it, though in ſomewhat differing forms, makes me hope your lordſhip, and other prelates of our church, will take this fair opportunity to recommend its moderation to other churches, by protecting and countenancing thoſe poor people, whom this rigorous perſecution has induced to take ſanctuary here, where already there were lately ſeen in the ſingle port of *Dover* above one hundred and fifty boys and girls newly brought over, for fear of the daily expected edict. And if to the conſideration of religion I thought it neceſſary, when I write to your lordſhip, to add any others, I might tell you, that though many of theſe perſecuted people are far more rich in faith than in the goods of this world; yet there are many others that bring over, as ſome of them have already, conſiderable ſtocks with them, ſo that if they be encouraged, it is thought that above a hundred thouſand pounds, or perhaps double that ſum, will in no long time be brought or returned into *England*, in caſe the owners ſettle here. But to return to what I was ſaying about the *French* conqueſts, a thought has ſeveral times run in my mind, that, with my wonted freedom, I ſhall not ſcruple to acquaint my confeſſor with, which is, that perhaps providence will bring this affair to ſome ſuch reformation, as was made here in *Henry* VIII.'s time; ſince this *French* king does, as that *Engliſh* monarch did, at the ſame time both perſecute the proteſtants, and affront the pope. If I hear any thing of the progreſs of this buſineſs worth your lordſhip's knowledge, the commands you were pleaſed to impoſe on me in reference to it, will continue to have their accuſtomed influence on,

My lord,

your lordſhip's moſt humble, and moſt affectionate ſervant.

I ERG.

I BEG to know, how your lordſhip enjoys your health in this ſickly time, and that you will be pleaſed to remember the paper I preſumed to put into your hands, when I kiſſed them at Mr. *Notts*'s.

Superſcribed thus,

To the right reverend father in God, Thomas *lord biſhop of* Lincoln. *Preſent at* Buckden: *dated* July 7, 1681.

Moſt honoured friend, *Buckden, July* 12, 1681.

I RECEIVED your letter, and this comes (with reſpects and ſervice, which are moſt due) to bring my thanks for the honour you have done, and the great kindneſs in communicating, which, beſides yourſelf, very few could) ſuch ſignificant and material intelligence. For your foreign news, though I could wiſh (rather than hope) that all Chriſtians were (as they ought) at peace one with another; yet I am well content, that the *French* king and the old gentleman at *Rome* do quarrel. I do not
Rev. xvii. 5. doubt, but that *Rome* is myſtical *Babylon*, and the pope that beaſt, that antichriſt who rules there: and as the infinitely wiſe and juſt providence of heaven ordered things ſo, that the kings of the earth gave their power to the beaſt to make him great; ſo the ſame good providence will (in his good time) put it into the heart of thoſe kings to
Rev. xvii. 7. ruin *Rome* and the beaſt too. If I could ſee the *French* king (who, I believe, cares not much for *Rome*, or its religion) fall off from his obedience to the pope, and ſet up a patriarch, (as has been in *Richelieu*'s time threatened) in *France*, independent on the pope, I ſhould not doubt the ruins of antichriſt and *Rome* would ſoon follow. *Faxit, qui ſolus poteſt, Deus.* For the poor perſecuted proteſtants in *France*, they have my compaſſionate pity and prayers; that God Almighty would be graciouſly pleaſed to ſanctify their afflictions, (which really are to all his ſervants *Actus patris, & miſericordiæ*, not *actus judicii & vindictæ*) and in his good time free them from thoſe calamities, and give them reſt and peace; and in the mean time ſupport them with his grace, ſo that they may bear thoſe perſecutions to his glory, the advantage of the goſpel, and the benefit of their ſouls here, and the ſalvation of them hereafter. This we may be ſure of, that when our moſt gracious God brings his people into the fire of perſecution, (as many times he does) it is not out of anger to conſume, but of a paternal
Zech. xiii. 9. care to refine and try them. God's own people, the *Jews*, were (by the *Chaldeans*) carried captive to *Babylon*, and (as to outward things) in a miſerable condition. And
Jer. xxiv. 5, 6. yet (though neither the *Chaldeans* nor the *Jews* ſought for) it was God himſelf, who ſent his people into that captivity, and for their good. However, an indiſpenſable obligation lies upon us here, to be kind and comfortable to thoſe poor perſecuted proteſtants, who fly hither for protection, I hope I ſhall, to the utmoſt of my ability. It is their turn now to ſuffer for the truth; and how ſoon it may be ours, God only knows. Sure I am, that the crying ſins of this nation are ſo many, and ſo great, that they do not only need a refining, but deſerve a conſuming fire. *Dirum omen miſericors (qui ſolus poteſt) averruncet Deus.* For the caſe you left with me, and your commands about it, you may be ſure they ſhall be obeyed, and that ſhortly too. Since my coming hither, partly by my infirmities, and phyſic which I was forced to take for them, and partly through a hurry of unavoidable buſineſs, I have not been able to execute your commands about that caſe: but now (bleſſed be God) being in a better condition of health, and ſomething more free from buſineſs, I ſhall (God willing) give you ſome account

account of that case. My respects and service once more remembered, your prayers are desired for and by

your obliged friend, and thankful servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

My honoured Friend, *Buckden, Aug.* 26, 1682.

I HAVE received yours, and this comes (with my respects and service) to bring my thanks for all civilities. It seems that the old gentleman at *Rome*, and the most Christian (but semi-catholic) king, are not cordially reconciled, and I am not troubled at it. Though I love peace, yet I wish war with *Rome* (such as the *Jews* were to have with *Amalek*) till it be ruined. I commiserate the sad condition of the poor *French* protestants; some of them in prisons, and severely persecuted at home; others exiles in other kingdoms: yet these calamities (though great) should be to them cause of joy, if they live according to that good religion they profess; for to men truly pious, imprisonments, exile and captivity are for their good, (though to wicked men, and impenitent sinners, they are not so.) To God's children, the greatest afflictions and persecutions, are *Actus patris, non judicis; actus misericordiæ, non vindictæ*; they are *charismata, non supplicia*, blessings, and not punishments; *non pœnæ, sed medicinæ*. But I hope you will pardon this extravagance. All our discourse here is about the comet, which now appears in the north. I am no astrologer, yet if you will pardon my confidence, I will tell you what I think of comets. 1. In the general, it has been the received opinion of pagans and Christians, that they portend some calamity to come upon some nation, country, or city, *&c.* Οὐδεὶς κομήτης ὅτις ἐ κακὸν φέρει, say the *Greeks*; and the *Latins, Nunquam futilibus excanduit ignibus æther*. 2. There are some things concerning comets, which may be calculated by art, and certainly known. As 1. Their motion. 2. Their magnitude. 3. Their altitude, by the parallax. 3. But there are other three things, which (to me) seem not only δυσνόητα, difficult, but ἀνεξιχνίαστα, impossible to be known by any. As 1. Their generation, how they come to appear, and of what matter they are made. 2. Their signification, what they (in particular) portend, and to what particular nation, country, city, or person they relate, for I suppose, that it is not all the world they threaten, because there may be, and are some parts of the world, to which some comets do not at all appear, and therefore cannot threaten them. 3. Their vanishings, how, and by what means they disappear, and what becomes of them, when they cease to appear to us. These three things seem to me impossible to be known by any art, or artist. But this is another extravagance, for which I beg your pardon; it was not concerning comets, but the case of conscience, of which you required my opinion; and how that casuistical rule *(in dubiis pars tutior est eligenda)* is to be understood. I have not forgot your commands; I have oft thought of it, since I received your commands in *London*; and having never *ex professo*, seriously studied that point, I find many perplexed and difficult cases, which will not easily be explicated, so as to give clear and full satisfaction. There was something (if I forget not) about this point, in the papers *De Voto*, I formerly sent you; if you would be pleased to lend me them, (for I have no copy of them) I should be better able to state the whole case, and bring it, and your papers with it, at my return to *London*, which will be about *Michaelmas*. I once more beg your pardon for this tedious and impertinent scribble, and shall only add, that I am,

your most obliged, thankful,
and faithful servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

Deut. xxv. 19.

Acts v. 41.

Jer. xiv. 5.

Heb. xii. 10.

Jer. xiv. 9, 10.

Phil. i. 29. To you is given, κεχάρισται.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Oct.* 10, 1683.

MY laſt night's letters tell me of an earthquake, with a prodigious noiſe accompanying it, in the country; and this comes to tell you (with my humble ſervice remembered) that here, in this county, and (as I am informed) in ſome other counties adjoining, we had an earthquake too, on *Saturday* laſt, about eleven and twelve o'clock at night, but without any noiſe of winds or thunder. I was in bed reading (as uſually) a chapter in the bible, and I perceived my bed to move a little, and a little cracking of ſomething above; but I little dreamed of any earthquake, but read on, and then ſlept quietly till the morning; when ſome of my ſervants told me, there was an earthquake, and that they perceived their chambers to ſhake, ſo ſenſibly, that one of them roſe out of bed; I ſcarce believed them, till ſeveral of the town and county told me, that their houſes were ſo ſhaken the ſame night, and ſome more, ſome leſs; but no harm any where done, unleſs ſome pewter ſomewhere caſt down, or ſome panes of glaſs broken. Theſe are *portenta*, and *prodigia*, and what they ſignify, I neither know, nor ſhall enquire. But ſure I am, unleſs we repent of our crying ſins and iniquities, our highly offended God and moſt gracious father, may juſtly ſhake us with ſeverer judgments. Your prayers are deſired by and for

your moſt obliged thankful ſervant,

THOMAS LINCOLN.

I HEAR nothing ſince your laſt, of the old gentleman at *Rome*.

My Honourable and Worthy Friend, *Buckden, April* 2, 1683.

I HAVE received yours, which was very welcome to me, becauſe yours. I am glad your illneſs and indiſpoſition is only ſuch, as does not confine you to your chamber, though to your houſe it do. It is (and ſhall be) my prayer, that God Almighty would be graciouſly pleaſed to grant you health, to his glory, the public good, and the comfort of your friends and relations. That the differences between the *French* king and the pope are (as it ſeems they ſay) almoſt terminated, I am of your opinion, they may poſſibly be kept from an open rupture, but that they ſhould be really made friends, I neither do, nor can believe. The pope has ſo exceedingly provoked the *French* king (who is, they ſay, more apt to revenge, than remit injuries) by his excommunications, interdicts, denying the privileges of his embaſſadors, *&c.* that they will not eaſily be forgiven or forgotten. So that the old verſes, a little altered, may ſuit well with the *French* king:

——— *manet altâ mente repoſtum*
Judicium papæ, ſpretique injuria Galli.

FOR the little pamphlet you are pleaſed to mention, and kindly approve, I muſt confeſs (how weak ſoever it may be) I am the author of it, though for ſome reaſons (which ſeemed juſt to me) I did conceal my name. But now it is known to be mine, and as I do really believe the things ſaid in it to be evident truths, ſo it is my hope, that (by the aſſiſtance of our moſt gracious God) I ſhall never be aſhamed, nor afraid
Matt. x. 32, 33. publicly to profeſs it; notwithſtanding any threatening circumſtances, in which the good providence of heaven may place us. Thoſe ſayings of our bleſſed Saviour ſhould
Mark viii. 38. not be forgotten. When that poor pamphlet came to be licenſed, the firſt and laſt argument (about the idolatry of the church of *Rome*) could not be licenſed, and ſo was left out, which I did not a little wonder at. I do herewith ſend you a copy of it, and deſire your cenſure. For I have this opinion of your great underſtanding, that

that if there be any error, you will ſoon find it, and of your kindneſs to me, that you will tell me of it, that I may ſpeedily correct and retract it. Your pardon for this tedious ſcribble, and your prayers are deſired by and for

your moſt obliged, thankful,
and faithful ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, April* 7, 1684.

THE papers I herewith ſend you, were (at firſt) intended only for a letter, but are grown into a tedious and (I fear) an impertinent diſcourſe. What they concern, when you have opened them, you will ſoon ſee. If you will take the trouble to read them, I deſire your cenſure of my miſtakes, if you find any, as (I fear) you may. Two things I have affirmed in thoſe papers, which may ſeem to you (as they do to many) paradoxes, if not manifeſt errors. That is, firſt, when I ſay, "that the ſin "againſt the Holy Ghoſt cannot now be committed." Secondly, when I intimate, "that the departed ſouls of the ſaints are not in heaven, nor do enjoy the *viſio Dei be-* "*atifica*, till the day of judgment." If this be true, as for many (to me) evident occaſions, I believe it is; then it will manifeſtly follow, that your popiſh canonization and invocation of ſaints, their purgatory, indulgences, their jubilees, and ſuch other gainful tricks to get money, will and muſt vaniſh, as impious frauds, to cozen the poor people, and enrich themſelves. So that if it ſhould be known, as (God willing) in good time it may, that I hold this opinion, then I may be ſure, that the old gentleman at *Rome*, and his party, will (with bell, book and candle) anathematize and damn me for a deſperate heretic. But (I thank God) their *bruta fulmina* do not fright me; nor ſhall I think myſelf leſs catholic, becauſe they call me (what they really are) an heretic. I ſhall deſire this favour, that when you have read theſe papers (if you will caſt away ſo much time to do it) I may have them again (for I have no other copy, that I may have time to conſider and correct them. For upon a review of them, I find (and ſo will you too) that more might have been ſaid on this ſubject, in leſs room, and with more evidence and perſpicuity than I have done; having writ them (as I got time from other buſineſs) by fits only, and not with a fixed and continued conſideration. However (my humble ſervice and thanks for a thouſand civilities remembered) he dare truſt you with all his infirmities, who is

your moſt obliged friend and ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

THAT the carriage may not coſt you more than the papers are worth, the carriage is paid.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, May* 5, 1684.

I RECEIVED yours, and (with my humble ſervice) return my thanks. For that paradox, which I mentioned in my papers (which you were pleaſed ſo kindly to accept) "That the ſouls of good or bad men departed this life, are not in heaven "or hell" (as the words are commonly underſtood) before the day of judgment, but in Ἅιδης (as the *Greeks* call it) or a middle ſtate; I was (about three years ſince) aſked my opinion, by a friend, in behalf of a learned gentleman, prebend of *Norwich*; and what I writ to him, I do here ſend you, whom (as I have formerly told you) I dare truſt with all my (very many) infirmities. I do not (as you will ſee by the papers I do now ſend) categorically and peremptorily determine the queſtion, whether there

be such a *status animarum medius, vel non:* nor do I censure any of either opinion: yet (at present) this I do believe and say: that although protestants and papists generally agree, that the souls of all pious men and true penitents, are immediately received into heaven, and enjoy (as the schoolmen call it) *visionem beatificam Dei*; yet I do (with humble submission to better judgments) believe, that the other opinion (that such souls in Ἅιδης, or a middle state, till the day of judgment) is more agreeable to scripture and the declared and constant opinion of the most pious and primitive fathers. Some of my reasons for this, you will find in the papers I now trouble you with: other reasons there are, which (when there is any necessity or opportunity) may be produced. For the other paradox, about the sin against the Holy Ghost, you shall (when I have a little more time and leisure) have the reasons of

your most obliged and faithful servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

THESE papers (if you think them worth the while) you may transcribe, but I desire that none else may have any copy of them. I desire also, that my name may be concealed; and I should take it as a favour, if any would give their objections against this *status medius*, either from scripture or antiquity.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, May* 25, 1684.

I HAVE received yours, and this comes (with my humble service) to bring my hearty thanks. For *Peter Walsh*'s book, I had notice of the preface of it (in which I am only concerned) before *Christmas*, while it was in the press; and an eminent person, who had seen some sheets in the preface, signified to me, what he said against me; "that I imputed those rebellious doctines to their church, which the court of "*Rome* did, but the church of *Rome* did not maintain." I had a purpose presently to have answered it. But when I got the book (which was sent me three months since by the said eminent person) and had carefully read it; I did, and do judge it unworthy of any particular answer. For 1. He pretends not to answer any of my reasons, upon which I impute those doctrines to their church. Their general councils (such as the great *Lateran* council, those of *Lyons*, *Constance*, *Trent*, *&c.)* do *(ex professo)* approve and maintain those rebellious doctrines. Now it is most certain, that (if any thing be) the definitions of their general councils is the doctrine of their church. 2. As he pretends not, nor endeavours to answer any of my arguments, so he no way proves what he objects against me; only he affirms something, but proves nothing, unless a positive and confident assertion may pass for a proof. If you meet with any, who think otherwise, if I may know what it is, which he thinks cogent and conclusive against any thing I have said, I shall be willing, and (I hope) able to give him satisfaction. In short, father *Walsh* is an ingenuous person, but far from being a rational writer, as wanting a comprehensive knowledge of scripture and antiquity. For scripture, he makes no use of it at all, nor do I remember any one text of scripture made use of by him to prove any of his positions. Sure I am, that while he grants (what is most true) that the pope and court of *Rome* maintain, "that the pope has "such a supreme extravagant power to depose kings and absolve their subjects from "all oaths of allegiance," he does (*ipso facto*) grant, that the pope has that indelible character of antichrist (2 *Thess.* ii. 4.) which is, "to exalt himself above all that is "called God;" or above all kings and emperors. The truth is, father *Walsh* has said many things against *Rome*, which they value not, nor can they be of any real advantage to us; he being an angry excommunicated person, and therefore his testimony

mony of little validity againſt them, or for us. As for thoſe impertinent papers I laſt ſent you, concerning the *ſtatus medius* of ſouls departed this life: when you have done with them (if you will loſe ſo much time as to read them) I deſire you would be pleaſed to return them to

your moſt obliged, thankful,
and faithful ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Jan.* 10, 1684.

I HAVE received yours, and (with my humble ſervice) return my hearty thanks, 1. For the information you ſo kindly gave me of *P. Walſh*'s book; for though I had the book, and had read it long before, yet your kindneſs was no leſs. 2. I return my thanks for your friendly advice, to anſwer father *Walſh*'s objections in *Latin*, becauſe my book (as you conceive) being only in *Engliſh*, his objections will come to many, to whom the *Engliſh* is not underſtood. But the truth is, my pamphlet, againſt which he brings thoſe objections, is extant in *French*, in *Latin* (prince *Rupert* being at the charge of the tranſlation) and (as I am aſſured) in *Italian*. Yet (upon the reaſon you give) I am reſolved (God willing) as ſoon as I can have a little leiſure, to take his objections into conſideration; becauſe they will give me juſt occaſion to ſay ſeveral things againſt him, and his pſeudo-catholic church, which they would not willingly hear, nor (I believe) eaſily anſwer. 3. For the paradox, concerning the middle ſtate of ſouls, you judge rightly, that I am inclined to believe it: indeed I do believe it, and, after long conſideration, for theſe nine or ten years, have believed it. This I have ſeldom ſaid to any, which I freely ſay to you; whom I dare make my confeſſor, and truſt with all my infirmities. This middle ſtate, is to all God's ſaints and ſervants, a happy eſtate, of great joy and comfort; (though far leſs than that complete glory and happineſs, which they ſhall have after the reſurrection) it is called paradiſe: "This day ſhalt thou be with me in paradiſe," (ſays our bleſſed Saviour to the penitent thief.) That paradiſe was that Ἅδης, or middle ſtate we ſpeak of: for, *in triduo mortis*, our bleſſed Saviour's ſoul was in it: "Thou ſhalt not leave my ſoul (εἰς Ἅδου) in hell, nor ſuffer thy holy One to ſee corruption." His ſoul was not left in hades, nor his body in the grave to ſee corruption; but his body was within that three days raiſed out of the grave, and his ſoul brought out of hades, and united to it, at his reſurrection. Whereas *David*'s body continued in the grave, and ſaw corruption; and (though he was dead above 1000 years before) his ſoul remained in hades, and was not aſcended into heaven. This hades (I ſay) is in ſcripture called paradiſe, a place of poſitive joy, and great comfort, to the ſaints of God; and of great torment to impenitent ſinners. *Lazarus* and the rich man (in the parable) were both ἐν Ἅδου, *in communi animarum receptaculo* (as the ancients called it) though in different places and parts of it. There was χάσμα μέγα, a great gulf between them; and as the places, ſo the condition of the ſouls in them, was very different. The ſouls of good men were comforted, of bad men tormented: ſo that the ſaints in that middle ſtate are in a happy condition in paradiſe, a place of joy and comfort, freed from all ſin, from all the temptations of Satan, the allurements of the world, from that body of death, or corruptions of the old man, which remain even in the beſt ſervants of God, while alive in this world, of which St. *Paul* complains. And beſides all this, they are abſolutely freed from all deſpair and doubtings, and reſt (for that ſtate is a ſtate of reſt) ſecure, and with a certain and undoubted hope of glory at the reſurrection.

Luke xxiii. 43. Acts ii. 27. Acts ii. 31. —— ii. 29. —— xi. 34. Luke xvi. 22, 23. Luke xvi. 26. —— xvi. 25. Rom. vii. 24. —— vi. 11.

Phil. i. 23. resurrection. It is true, St. *Paul* says, "he had a desire to be dissolved, and be with "Christ, which was far better," than his being here in this world. 1. To be with Christ after his dissolution immediately; and, no doubt, though our blessed Saviour Matt. xxviii. 20. tell his disciples, that he will be with them here, "to the end of the world;" (with them, by his grace comforting, and his power protecting them) yet after their dissolution, he is far nearer to them, both by his grace purifying them from all remains of sin, compleating all his graces in them, and giving them perfect hope and charity, so that they sin no more, and by his power protecting them, so that nothing can disquiet their rest, disturb their peace, or any way hurt them. And hence it is, that he says, that it is far better to be dissolved, than be here in the flesh; his condition, he says, would be far better after his dissolution, than it was here; (which is most certain, and, for the reason aforesaid, granted) but he does not say, that it will be a state of beatitude, and enjoying of the beatifical vision, and that crown of glory. For he himself expressly tells us, that neither he, nor any saint shall have that crown, 2 Tim. iv. 8. "till the day of judgment." And our blessed Saviour tells us, that recompence and reward, which God will graciously give his saints and servants for their piety and cha- Luke xiv. 14. rity, is to be given them, not immediately after their death, but "at the resurrection "of the just." I know it has (for some ages last past) been the general opinion, (especially of popish writers) that there is no such middle state of saints, but that they go *uno saltu in cælum*; and this they must say, else their invocation and canonization of saints (by which they cozen the people of their money, and enrich themselves) would be ridiculous as well as erroneous. But I do also well know, that the *Jewish* church, and the primitive Christians, did believe, and their best writers did profess and vindicate this middle state we speak of; and I do not know any text of scripture against it: nay, it seems evident to me, (with submission to better judgments) that scripture clearly confirms the doctrine of the middle state of souls. However, though this be my opinion (at present) yet I dare not any way censure, much less condemn any, who are of another judgment. Pray pardon this rude, tedious, and (I fear) impertinent scribble, and pray for,

your most obliged friend,

and faithful servant,

THOMAS LINCOLN.

THE papers you mention to be sent by the carrier, are not come; and he says he had no such papers.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Jan.* 12, 1684.

YOUR great and undeserved kindness has given me confidence to trouble you. I am lately informed, by a person of great honour, who has good intelligence, that some are about a translation of the popish canon law into *French*; which I wonder at. Sure I am, the pope and his party (if they can hinder it) will never permit such a translation to be published; and if they cannot hinder it, their power is not so great as it has been. I hope it is true, that they are about such a translation; and I should be glad to hear it were finished, and made public: for there are so very many prodigiously erroneous and impious canons and decrees in that law, that were it in *French*, or any vulgar tongue, the honest and unlearned laity (who had any love for truth or piety) would abhor that law, and the authors and owners of it. Give me leave to set down an instance or two, which (I believe) are not unknown to you;

and the places I shall mention are in their best and most correct editions of their [a] canon law, and (as such) published by the pope's authority. And here,

8. *Gratian* tells us, (what pope *Agatho* told him) that all the popes constitutions *irrefragibiliter sunt observandæ*, as if *Peter* himself had confirmed and published them. *Sic omnes apostolicæ sedis sanctiones accipiendæ sunt, tanquam ipsius divini Petri voce firmatæ sint.* They are the [b] words of the canon. And that we may know what he does mean by these words, and how highly we are to prize them, he adds, [c] *Decretales papæ epistolæ inter canonicas scripturas connumerantur.* So that by this law, we are like to have a large bible; not only the Old and New Testament, but all the new decretals of the old gentleman at *Rome*, and they not apocryphal, but most properly canonical.

2. *Gratian* tells us in that law, that the pope may depose kings, absolve their subjects from all oaths of allegiance, and then prefer another to their vacant throne; and gives instance in the *French* king (though the instance as to matter of fact be most false) thus. *Alius Rom. pontifex, Zacharias scilicet, regem Francorum, non tam pro suis iniquitatibus, quam pro eo, quod tantæ potestati esset inutilis, à regno deposuit, & Pipinum in ejus locum substituit; omnesque Francigenas à juramento fidelitatis absolvit, &c.* Though the matter of fact be evidently false (for so the learned *French* writers have plainly proved it) yet it stands still in the body of their law, in all the editions of it.

3. *Gratian* tells us (out of pope *Clement* the Vth's epistle) "That in the primitive church they had all things common," and that the philosopher said, *Amicorum omnia sunt communia*; and that "iniquity brought in division and propriety." Having said this, he adds: *In omnibus autem sine dubio sunt & conjuges.* This (though most impious, as well as erroneous) may be pleasing to their clergy, who, having no wives of their own, may make use of their neighbours.

4. The same *Italian*, in the same canon-law, and all editions of it, tells us, that *Meretrix est, quæ multorum libidini patet.* It must be many, who must make a whore; and if you ask how many will do it? courteous *John Semea*, the learned glossator, will tell you, that in the canon, she is said, *multorum libidini patere, quæ admiserit plures, quam* 23. *millia hominum.* And this he proves out of St. *Gregory*, who speaking of 23,000 men, calls them *pauci*; and therefore, if *meritrix* be she only, *quæ multorum libidini patet*, then (by this law and logic) none can be a whore, who has not laid with more than 23,000. And if this were true, I dare say *Rome*, "the mother of harlots," has not one whore in it. My dear friend, pardon this impertinent extravagance, and pray for

your faithful friend and servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

[a] I mean the editions at *Paris*, 1612. with the gloss; and at *Paris* again, *anno* 1618. and at *Lyons*, 1661.

[b] *Can. sic omnes.* 2 *distinct.* 19.

[c] *Ibid dist.* 20. *Can.* 6. *in lemmate & canone.*

Can. Alius 3. *Caus.* 15. *Quæst.* 6.

Johannis Launoius, epist. tom. 7. *p.* 117, 118. *& p.* 245, 246.

Ca. Dilectissimis. 2. *Caus.* 12. *Quæst.* 1.

Can. Viduæ 16. *Dist.* 34.

Glossa ad dictum Can. Ubo. Quæ multorum Can. disciplina. 9. *dist.* 45.

Rev. xvii. 5.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden*, 18, 1684.

IT is now a good while since I troubled you (as in other cases I have often done) with a story of images unlawfully (as I did, and do think) set up in a church in my diocese. The painter and some few of the parishioners (upon pretence of beautifying the church) washed out all the sentences of scripture formerly writ upon the walls; then they set up in their places the images of thirteen apostles (St. *Paul* for one) and twelve patriarchs, and *Moses* and *Aaron*. The picture of St. *Peter* they placed above the ten commandments, and that of *Paul* above the king's arms, and they picture *Moses* (after the ridiculous popish way) with horns. They then *(ex post facto)* procured an order from the deputy chancellor of *Lincoln*, (the chancellor being absent) to approve and confirm what they had done. I caused the chancellor to null that order: then they appealed to the Arches, where the appeal now depends, and (this

(this next term) the cauſe will come to be heard and determined, whether thoſe images ſhall ſtand or fall. I am no party in the cauſe, neither appellant nor appellee, nor ſo much as named in their appeal, which is only from the chancellor. However, I abhor their ſetting up ſuch images in the church; and to ſhew my diſlike, and the reaſons of it, I have writ a breviate of the caſe, and ſent it to my lord of *Canterbury*, who (being judge of the court of the Arches, though executed by a deputy) may, and (I doubt not) will take care, *ne quid detrementi capiat eccleſia*. A copy of that breviate I ſend here incloſed to you, as to a perſon who very well underſtands and loves our reformed religion. If (upon peruſal) you approve of my deſign againſt popiſh images, and my reaſons for it, it will be a great encouragement and comfort to

your affectionate and faithful
friend and ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Oct.* 28, 1684.

I RECEIVED yours, and this comes to bring (what is moſt due) my humble ſervice and thanks. It is an encouragement and comfort to me, that you do not condemn thoſe papers I ſent you. I confeſs you do judge rightly, when you ſay, that better and ſtronger reaſons might be brought againſt images (and ſetting them up in churches, and places of God's public worſhip) from ſcripture, where God ſo often, and ſo ſeverely forbids the making of them for any religious uſe. And when they were any where made, he has ſeverely commanded to break them down, and utterly deſtroy them as abominable to God, and pernicious to the people, being teachers of lies. To avoid this our adverſaries do two things. 1. They have (with horrid impiety and impudence) put one commandment (that againſt images) out of the decalogue, where God himſelf had placed, and with his own finger writ it, which is an evident demonſtration, that their own conſciences convince them, that the ſecond commandment condemns their image worſhip; elſe it is certain, they neither would, nor needed they leave it out. But ſeeing this will not do their buſineſs (there being an hundred other places in *Moſes* and the prophets againſt images) they ſay, 2. That it is confeſſed, that images and worſhipping of them was abſolutely forbid to the *Jews* in the Old Teſtament; but it was by a poſitive (not any natural) law, which did bind the *Jews* then, but binds not us in the New Teſtament, which is evidently untrue, as might, and (God willing) in good time ſhall be proved, for it is not a work for a letter. I ſhould only deſire our adverſaries to conſider what St. *John* admoniſhes us; the word is εἰδώλα, which in our tranſlation, we retain, keep ourſelves from idols: which word properly ſignifying images (as the beſt gloſſary tells us) and their authentic *Latin* ſo renders it, *cuſtodite vos à ſimulacris*, keep yourſelves from images. I beg your pardon, and prayers for,

Exod. xl. 4. Deut. iv. 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 25. Exod. xxii. 24. Deut. vii. 5, 25. & Deut. xvi. 22. Hab. ii. 18. Jer. x. 14, 15. 1 John v. 21.

Heſychius has it thus. Εἴδωλον, ὁμοίωμα, εἰκών, σημεῖον, &c.

your obliged faithful ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

I SHALL ſhortly trouble you with another letter.

Mr. BOYLE *to the biſhop of* Lincoln.

My lord,

THOUGH I ſuppoſe, that it is out of condeſcenſion, not curioſity, that your lordſhip is pleaſed to command my opinion in a caſe, wherein your very letter makes it appear, that no body is more fit and able to give a well grounded reſolution than

than yourſelf; yet I ſhall adventure to tell your lordſhip on this occaſion, that having lived in ſeveral popiſh countries, I was by the obſervations I made there very little invited to expect as much benefit as danger from the uſe of images in churches, eſpecially in ſuch where their very novelty may ſtartle many, if not ſcandalize them too. And ſince your lordſhip has the law and goſpel on your ſide, and knows very well the reaſonableneſs of that advice, *principiis obſta*, it ſeems a thing well becoming your ſtation, and your wonted zeal for the purity of religion, to endeavour the early cloſing of a gap, that, left open, will probably be more and more widened, and prove an inlet to innovations dangerous to the church of *England*, and conſequently to the proteſtant cauſe. Though I write in much haſte, yet I dare not conclude this ſcribble, without giving your lordſhip a touch of the news I learned yeſternight. It is here taken for granted (and I think may be ſo) that the United Provinces will accept of the king of *France* his truce for twenty years, though the prince of *O.* be ſo diſſatisfied with it, that it is affirmed he has ſent for the princeſs to *Breda*, where he means to paſs this year. The *French* allow the emperor and the *German* princes a month's time, and the *Spaniards* ſix weeks to come into the treaty. But whether either of them will embrace the offer is not yet known. The *Venetian* preparations both by land and ſea are ſaid to be the greateſt that ever that republic made, and the numbers of that foot (amounting to 16,000) together with that ſtore of materials fitted for building, make it ſuſpected, that they intend no leſs than to attempt the *Dardanels*, and fortify themſelves there. The king of *Poland* proceeds vigorouſly, and in likelihood will do it proſperouſly. The imperial troops in *Hungary* are not like to be reſiſted by an army, but only by garriſons. There goes a *French* letter, which I expect a ſight of, ſaid to be written by count *Teckely* to the pope, which ſome commend for a fine as well as real piece. We are told, that when his holineſs received an account of the miſchiefs the *French* had done in the *Netherlands*, and at *Genoa*, he led the cardinal *d'Eſtrees* to a fair crucifix, that was in the room, and falling at the feet of it, declared with great earneſtneſs, that he had done all that lay in him to protect the Chriſtian church from the common enemy. But ſince ſome of her own children had, by their unſeaſonable animoſities, defeated all his endeavours, he humbly begged the divine founder of the church to take the preſervation of it into his own care, and then turning to the cardinal, added, that there was indeed one thing that he might do himſelf towards the redreſs of theſe grievances. But though his unwillingneſs had ſtill made him forbear that remedy, yet ſuch extraordinary proceedings might neceſſitate him to employ it. For which we ſhall have the free conſent of,

My lord,

your lordſhip's moſt, &c.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Nov.* 4, 1684.

I DID in my laſt threaten to trouble you with another letter, and this comes (with my ſervice) to do it. For I ſhall tell you a ſtory, which really troubles me, and will (I believe) not be very well pleaſing to you, or any who love truth, and our reformed religion. The ſtory is this. There is a book lately printed with this title: "The Order of the Inſtallation of P. *George* of *Denmark*, *C.* duke of *Somerſet*, and *G.* "*D.* of *Northumberland*, in the Royal Chapel at *Windſor*, *April* 8, 1684." wherein we have theſe paſſages, as part of the form uſed at their inſtallation. 1. When the garter was given them, there was this admonition, "To the honour of God, his im- Page 3. of "maculate mother, and to St. *George* the holy martyr, gird on this garter, *&c.*" where, that book. 1. By God in this form, God the Son muſt be meant, for the Virgin *Mary* was not

mother of God the Father: and then our bleſſed Saviour, his mother and St. *George* are joined in the ſame honour. 2. The virgin *Mary* is (moſt erroneouſly, againſt expreſs ſcripture) declared to be immaculate. Next we have this form uſed (as the book
Page 4. and 9. ſuits) at the putting on the *George*. "To the increaſe of your honour, take this "ribband about your neck, with the image of the holy martyr, and Chriſt's knight, "St. *George*, by whoſe aid you being defended, may have here the victory of your "ghoſtly and bodily enemies, and at laſt the everlaſting reward of victory." So by the aid of St. *George*, they may get the victory of all their enemies, ſpiritual and temporal, and at laſt eternal glory. This is not by obſervation, for I had it from a reverend and learned gentleman from *Newcaſtle* in *Northumberland*, who (before I had ſeen or heard of that book) gave me this account by letter, that the papiſts in that country made uſe of that book, to ſeduce ſome proteſtants to popery, telling them, that ſuch things were uſed and approved in the king's chapel at *Windſor*. Hereupon the gentleman ſent to *Windſor*, to one of the prebends, (who had been his ſcholar in *Oxon*) to enquire, whether thoſe forms had been uſed at the inſtallation of thoſe three noble perſons, and found that it was a Roman *pia fraus*, an impious popiſh ſee, for no ſuch forms were uſed at the inſtallation, and complaint was made of it to my lord of *Canterbury*, who ſent for the printer, and will (I doubt not) ſee juſtice done. By the premiſes you may ſee, that there are deſigns on foot to bring in popery, not only in *Lincolnſhire*, by images at *Moulton*, but in other counties; and if we ſleep while they ſow tares, we neglect our duty, and give our adverſaries opportunity to do miſchief, which that our moſt gracious God (who neither ſlumbers nor ſleeps) may prevent, is the prayer of,

your moſt obliged thankful ſervant,

THO. LINCOLN.

My Honourable and Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Nov.* 29, 1684.

I RECEIVED yours, and (with my humble ſervice) return my hearty thanks, for the great (and I hope in that iſſue it will prove good) news, concerning Mr. *Maimbourg*'s book, and the buſineſs of *Genoa*. Both which will doubtleſs highly diſpleaſe the old gentleman at *Rome*, and is an evident argument, that the *French* king has little favour for his holy father at *Rome*, who may poſſibly (if he continue diſobedient) diſinherit his eldeſt ſon, and (what he has formerly done, I mean ſome of his predeceſſors have done) ſend an angry and roaring bull to depoſe him; though (at preſent I do believe) he dare not do it, conſidering the *French* king's greatneſs, who will (as our *Hen.* VIII. did) account the thunder of a papal anathema, no more than an *ignus fatuus*, or inſignificant ſquib, though thrown from the capitol. What the iſſue of theſe animoſities will be, I know not; but leave it to that infinitely wiſe, powerful, and good God, who has, I believe (conſidering the ſtrange and great commotions in *Europe* and *Turkey* too) ſome great work to do in this weſtern part of the world, and (in deſpite of all human politics and deſigns) will do his own work his own way (with infinite juſtice and wiſdom) for there is no power nor policy againſt his good providence. I cannot requite your kindneſs, by ſending you (what you ſent me) foreign news: yet give me leave to ſay ſomething of a new book, which came to my hand this week; the title this: "A Diſcourſe concerning the Meſſias, by *John Turner*, *&c.*" In this book the epiſtle dedicatory is more than half the book, and moſt of it againſt Dr. *Cudworth*'s Syſtem. I am told, that Mr. *Turner* was of Dr. *Cudworth*'s college, and by him turned out of it, *& hinc illæ lacrymæ*. 2. In the book itſelf, pag. 63. he propoſes to explain the nature of God, and defines God to be, "an Infinite Extenſion

"or

" or Space." 2. He endeavours to prove (having positively affirmed it, in the lemma to his third section, pag. 80.) that *Des Cartes* was an atheist. I suppose he does not mean, that *Des Cartes* is a professed atheist, so as to deny the being of a Deity; but that it will follow from his avowed principles, that there is no God; which whether it do or no, I have neither a mind, nor time to determine. However, one thing he has, which I approve; (and it is the truest thing in his book) he makes honourable mention of Mr. *Boyle*, pag. 77. which thousands besides him will do, when there is occasion; and of that number he is one, who begs your pardon for this rude scribble, and subscribes himself

your faithful friend and servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Oct.* 1, 1685.

I HAVE received your letter, which (as all yours) was very welcome to me; not only because yours, but for the good news which you did so kindly communicate. I perceive, that the animosities and differences between the *French* king, and the old gentleman at *Rome*, are very great; yet (as *Herod* and *Pontius Pilate* could, and did agree, to persecute our blessed Saviour) they can agree to persecute the poor protestants, with a barbarous, inhuman, and unheard of cruelty; which will, (I doubt not) hasten their ruin. For there is an infinitely just and good God, who sees, and (in his good time) will punish the impious and cruel oppressors of his poor people. By these four theses (you mention) so publicly approved and defended in the *Sorbonne*, we are furnished with a just answer to their common objection; " that our church having so " many differences and sects (as presbyterians, independents, *&c.*) must needs be " imperfect, as wanting an infallible guide and judge to determine those questions, " which (they say) they have." Now they have given us a just answer to this frivolous objection. For 1. Our differences are in things of lesser moment, about government, whether bishops, or no bishops, whether churches be independent, whether the cross in baptism, *&c.* But they (as appears by their theses) differ in the very fundamentals of their church; the Jesuits, Canonists, Casuists, *&c.* and generally all their writers have and do maintain the pope's infallibility, and his supremacy, even in temporals, that he has power to depose kings, absolve their subjects from their oaths of allegiance, and give away their kingdoms to catholics, that the clergy are not subjects to kings, nor can be guilty of treason, though they kill their king. Now the *Sorbonne* and the *French* divines deny all this, as appears by those theses. And indeed it is ridiculous for them to object our little differences to us, when they have far greater amongst themselves. 2. But without them, we have an answer sufficient to that objection, concerning our diversity of sects and opinions. For that diversity of sects, and heresies, and erroneous opinions, doth not arise from the want of (what they irrationally pretend to) an infallible judge; for while our blessed Saviour and his apostles lived, there wanted not an infallible judge, and yet there were many sects and erroneous opinions: which arose from the want of humility, faith and piety in the people, who would not (as they ought) submit to and humbly receive those divine doctrines, our blessed Saviour and his apostles infallibly taught them. 3. But the fourth thesis does utterly overthrow their whole religion; I mean popery, as it consists in those doctrines all protestants deny: which (God willing) I hope to make evidently appear in good time. In the mean time, I hope to be in *London* before the parliament sit, and then (as heretofore) you will be troubled with

your most obliged friend, and thankful servant,

THO. LINCOLN.

I CASUALLY got a fall, coming out of the chapel on *Monday* laſt, a little bruiſe of my hip, and a little pain followed; but (I bleſs my good God) the pain is almoſt gone. But it has kept me in my chamber (being not able to walk without pain) this four days. So that I was not able to wait on my good lord *Burlington*, who going through our town kindly ſent to ſee how I did.

My Honourable and Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Thurſday, Jan.* 14, 1685.

I RECEIVED yours, and this comes (with my humble ſervice) to bring my hearty thanks. My health (which you ſo kindly enquire of) is much better (I bleſs God for it) than I could have expected, my great age (79 almoſt complete) and the infirmities which uſually accompany it, conſidered: only my ſhortneſs of breath is a weakneſs troubleſome, but (I bleſs God) not painful to me. I pity, and pray for the poor perſecuted proteſtants in *France*; I believe thoſe calamities fall on the good and bad, as the captivity on the *Jews* (in that excellent chapter *Jer.* xxiv.) and with the ſame difference. The wicked *Jews* were ſent into captivity, "for their hurt," ver. 9. but the pious *Jews*, "for their good," ver. 5. And I do not doubt, but the honeſt *French* proteſtants (though their calamity be great) will find thoſe great and moſt gracious promiſes made true to them, which are made to the *Jews* in their captivity, ver. 5, 6, 7. of that chapter. For the good men, *a patria exulant, ut ad Deum redeant.* The miſeries which good men ſuffer, are not *ſupplicia*, but χαρίσματα. They are not *pœnæ*, but *medicinæ*, intended and given for their health. They are *actus patris miſerentis*, not *judicis peccata vindicantis, &c.* And indeed we evidently ſee, that thoſe poor perſecuted *French* proteſtants find great favour in all places, whither they come for protection and refuge. The *French* king's perſecution of his poor ſubjects, is not only unchriſtian, but barbarous and inhuman; and I doubt not, but as his ſin, ſo his puniſhment will be ſignal, even in this life. For the confeſſion of the Popiſh faith you mention, I ſend you one incloſed, as it was lately ſent me. The firſt part of it is the *Conſtantinopolitan* creed, the very ſame with that creed we have at our communion in our liturgy. The ſecond part is that we call the new *Trent* creed, which was never heard of, till *Pius* IV. publiſhed it at the end of the *Trent* council, *anno* 1564. Now the new *Trent* creed added to the old creed is a full comprehenſion of popery, where it is clearly and authentically propoſed, without mincing and miſrepreſentations; and we have it ſometimes in the [a] *Trent* council itſelf, ſometimes after the end of the council, as in many editions. Now in this new creed, every article is evidently erroneous, and many ſuperſtitious and idolatrous. I ſay, (pardon my confidence) evidently erroneous, ſuperſtitious, or idolatrous; and I doubt not, but it may, and (in time) will appear, that there is good reaſon and evidence enough for this confidence. Pray pardon this rude ſcribble of

Phil. i. 29. ἐχαρίσθη.

Heb. xii. 6, 7.

[a] See in the edition of the *Trent* council at *Antwerp*, 1633. Seſſ. 24. *De reformatione* pag. 450. which is the moſt uſeful edition for us in many reſpects.

your moſt obliged, thankful,
and faithful ſervant,
THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Nov.* 22, 1686.

I RECEIVED yours, and (with my humble ſervice) return my hearty thanks for the news you did ſo kindly communicate. That which you write concerning the king of *France*'s diſtemper, is (to me) very great and conſiderable news. When firſt I heard of the *French* king's diſtemper, and the extraordinary quality and condition of it, and conſidered his unchriſtian, nay, inhuman and barbarous cruelties exerciſed

upon the poor proteſtants (his innocent ſubjects) I did, and do look upon his diſtemper, not as any caſual or ordinary diſeaſe, but as a puniſhment upon him, from the immediate hand of divine juſtice, ſuch as no human art can cure. *Raro antecedentem ſceleſtum ſubſequitur pœna pede claudo:* great ſins (even in this life) have uſually ſignal puniſhments; if not to better and reform the ſinner, yet to fright others from the like impieties. Concerning the *French* tract you mention, I am glad to hear, that a perſon of quality, and a *Roman* catholic (as they call them) ſhould write againſt tranſubſtantiation (a word never heard of in the Chriſtian world, for above one thouſand years after our bleſſed Saviour) and the doctrine ſignified by it ſo contradictory to the reaſon and ſenſes of all mankind, that I think it impoſſible for any to believe it, who "has not ſtrong deluſion to believe a lie." And ſeeing the *French* clergy have ſo lately and publicly declared againſt the pope's power in temporals, his infallibility and ſupremacy, *&c.* it is my prayer and hope, that the good God of heaven and earth, who hath given them the knowledge of ſo much truth, and courage to profeſs it, will in his good time reveal to them thoſe other truths, which (by the church of *Rome*) have been miſcalled hereſies, and the profeſſors of them (with anti-chriſtian cruelty) perſecuted. If you could ſpare me the ſight of the *French* tract you mention, I ſhould ſpeedily and thankfully reſtore it. His argument, that tranſubſtantiation was not received and profeſſed in the primitive church, becauſe neither *Jews* nor *Pagans* ſpoke againſt it, is good, but not new; others have uſed the ſame argument, which (with many others, more cogent and evident) never has, nor can be truly anſwered. The money you gave me for the poor, I have diſtributed; and with it refreſhed about forty widows and fatherleſs, *&c.* And though they know not their benefactor, yet the infinitely good and gracious God, who gave you money, and (which is more) a mind to uſe it charitably, he knows, and can and will reward you. I beg your pardon for this rude, and (I fear) impertinent ſcribble, and your prayers for

your moſt obliged and faithful ſervant,

THO. LINCOLN.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Jan.* 4, 1686.

I DO herein incloſed ſend you (with my humble ſervice) a paper, which (if you have not ſeen) may be not unworthy your peruſal. It is a letter writ ſome years ſince by Mr. *Walker* of Univerſity college, to a friend of his beyond the ſeas, who had heard, that he was inclined (if not turned) to popery, and gave him ſome reaſons againſt it. Mr. *Walker* (as appears by his letter) confeſſes, that he is a *Roman* catholic, (as they love to miſcal themſelves) and gives his reaſons why he is ſo, naming ſome books, which he vainly conceives ſufficient to convince him of the truth of that religion. I do not wonder (the circumſtances we are now in conſidered) that he ſo lately declared himſelf to be a papiſt; but I wonder that he did it no ſooner, but continued ſo long in the communion of the church of *England*; for he has been my intimate acquaintance above fifty years, and has ever been reaſoning with me for the religion of *Rome*. Though God knows, and all intelligent and impartial ſeekers of truth may and ought to know, that there is no reaſon for it, but the ſacred ſcriptures, and primitive and purer antiquity, expreſsly and univerſally againſt it. Our letters into the country from your great town tell us, that the *French* king is perfectly recovered, and in their churches thanks given to God for it; which is no part of the creed of

your moſt obliged, and faithful ſervant,

THO. LINCOLN.

WE hear nothing of the old gentleman at *Rome*.

Incloſed

Incloſed in the preceding.

Illuſtriſſime domine,

LITERAS tuas Martii 13°. ſcriptas tempeſtivè recepi, ſolitâ humanitate plenas, & propterea mihi ſummè gratas & jucundas. Quod de me, deque religione mea, uſque ad vos permanaſſe dicis, cognoſcere non ſum ſollicitus; neque ad me reſque meas pertinere arbitror, quid illi ſentiant de me, qui, cum opus erit eorum auxilio, nihil prorſus ad ſalutem meam conferre poterunt, cum ſinguli coram divino tribunali ſiſtemur. Ecquis obſecro vel patrocinium, vel miſericordiam mihi præſtabit, ſi in religionis ſuſceptione quidvis errâſſe convincar? Dabis ergo mihi veniam, uti ſpero, ſi conſcientia propria contentus, aliorum ſive cenſuras, ſive rumores poſthabeam: neque decet, vel vacat decrepitum adeò ſilicernium fine ſua declaranda male feriatorum aculeis ſeſe exponere: abunde diſputationem ubique proſtat, & ſi cui libeat, dentes, viresque ſuas adverſus eccleſiæ Romanæ catholicæ doctrinam experiri, paratos habet quos perpendat libros nunquam adhuc confutatos; unum cui titulus, (The Guide to Controverſy) *anno* 1673, *ſecundò editum; alium,* Conſiderations on the Council of *Trent: alium* Dr. *Stillingfleet*'s Principles conſidered, *ejuſdem libri adverſus* Stillingfleeti qualem qualem reſponſionem defenſio; *aliaque aliquam multa ejuſdem authoris. Quare, dum tantæ molis opera quaſi intecta remanſerint, mihi non imputabit notiſſimus tuus candor, ſi operam prorſus ſupervacaneam ipſe minimè conferam, neque ſerram ipſe debiliter traham, dum fortiora brachia otioſa reſtabunt. Quid Syrus ille tuus ſibi velit, fateor, ex iis, quæ perſcripſiſti, me non intelligere: videtur ſane adverſus Neſtorium, vel Eutychem nonnihil moliri, ſed contra doctrinam eccleſiæ, de reali ſervatoris noſtri in euchariſtia præſentia, vel panis, vel vine abſentia, nihil eum aſſerere comperio: ſed quicunque fuerit, vel quicquid dixerit, modo de ejus authoritate non plenè conſtiterit, nihil ad me ſpectare arbitror; gratias tamen habeo, quod vel horum fragmentorum partem aliquam communicaſti, Deumque precor, ut tibi fælicitatem in hoc mundo, & æternum in futuro beatitudinem ex miſericordia ſua conferat, ut & ſervo tuo humillimo,*

OBAD. WALKER.

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, Jan.* 19, 1686.

I RECEIVED your laſt, and (with my ſervice) return my thanks. A piece of news comes to us here from *Cambridge*, which ſome of that univerſity ſay is true, and may not be unworthy your knowledge. It is this. The maſter of *Sidney* college being dead, one *Baſſet* comes with a mandamus and diſpenſation (except for the oath of allegiance, that he muſt, and is willing to take) requiſite. But there happens this remora, which hinders his entering upon that government. The founder of that college has this qualifying condition and limitation of his donation; that whoever is choſen head of that houſe, ſhall be a true proteſtant of the church of *England*, otherwiſe that land given to the college muſt revert to the founder's executors. This (as well it may) does hinder *Baſſet* to take poſſeſſion of that hardſhip, being afraid that the founder's executors will ſeize upon the land, as ſure (by law) they may do: for *donatio conditionata, conditione non præſtitâ, non obligat.* What will come of this buſineſs, time will tell. How your *Roman* catholics (as they call them) come now to take the oath of allegiance, I know not: ſure I am, that *ab origine* it was, and ſtill is condemned at *Rome*, and unleſs the pope *(ex plenitudine poteſtatis)* diſpenſe with it, they cannot be good *Roman* catholics, who now take it. I am,

your obliged friend and ſervant,

THO. LINCOLN.

My

My Honoured Friend, *Buckden, July* 28, 1687.

I AM returned to *Buckden*, and though the weather was very hot, and the ways dusty, yet (I bless God for it) in perfect health. I have received your letter, which was (as all yours are) very welcome to me, not only because yours, but for the strange and good news you did so kindly communicate. We in the country hereabout are full of prophecies and predictions, that *Babylon* must fall (which is not far off) the very next year 1688. That *Babylon* must fall, we have (in St. *John*'s revelation) an infallible prophecy: but that it must fall the very next year, our late prophecies say, but neither do or can assure us. But if your news from *Italy* be true, as I believe it is, *(facile credimus, quæ volumus)* it may be (if not absolutely certain) a significant symptom, that the old gentleman, who has been long called (and not miscalled) antichrist, is not far from ruin. A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand long. The *Gallican* church (especially of late) has declared against many of the papal usurpations, and long received errors in that church, as fiercely as we heretics, as evidently appears, not only by the public and printed writings of their learned doctors, *(Richerius, Launoy, Du Pin,* &c.) but by the published declaration of the *Gallican* clergy assembled at *Paris* 1682. But now, if in *Italy* and *Rome* itself (the state of the beast) there be risen up a sect of Quietists, (who as you well observe, are not likely to deserve that name long) of such numbers and quality; if Jesuits be amongst them; if the inquisition (which had no institution, nor till after the * year 1200 was ever heard of) be of divine institution, superior to all human authority ecclesiastical as well as civil: if they are come to that confidence, (or impudence) to pass by the pope as such, and consult him only as a private person, as *Odescalchi*, not as *Innocent*; though in their fourth vow they have vowed to give absolute obedience to all his commands, without questioning the lawfulness or unlawfulness of them, and though their whole Society has generally maintained his infallibility and absolute supremacy: I say, if they are come to such fatal divisions amongst themselves, this overthrows the very foundations of popery, and is a signal symptom of the ruin of the papal monarchy, *quod faxit Deus*. But for the old gentleman and Jesuits, *transeant cum suis erroribus*. For the money you concredited to me to be distributed amongst the poor, I have comforted many poor people with it; and though you will not have it known who is their benefactor, yet he, who sees in secret, will reward you openly, and our blessed Saviour has assured us, that *merces charitatis magna erit & certa, Matt.* xx. 41, 42. Your prayers are desired by, and for

your most obliged, thankful,
and humble servant,
THO. LINCOLN.

Letters from Dr. SHARROCK *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Most Honoured SIR, *Jan.* 26, 1659-60, *New-College.*

I HUMBLY thank you for the trouble I gave you in the conveyance of my book to the learned doctor, and the inconvenience you pleased to incur in the leaving your noble friends for the dispatch of your last answer, but most of all for the matter of the answer itself. This day I consulted Mr. *Robinson* about the printing of your piece, the paper and character, and time requisite for the work; who tells me, that the same letter for character is at Mr. *Hall*'s our printer's, wherewith Mr. *More*'s book

* *Particulare officium inquisitionis contra hæreticos non incepit nisi post annum millesimum ducentesimum. Vide historiam inquisitionis Pauli Veneti: Roterodami* 1651, *p.* 10, 11.

you

you mention was printed: that two ſheets may weekly in that letter and paper be printed off, and for need more; the performance of which by Mr. *Hall* he will undertake for. As to the correction and reviſe of the preſs, I am already bound to give you my utmoſt aſſiſtance, and ſhall faithfully do it in your behalf, and ſhall queſtionleſs be able to do much more now for the fairneſs of the copies, than when lately I had preſs-work of my own; not only becauſe I ſhall have leſs work (for then the buſineſs of compoſing and tranſcribing was upon me) and a better preſs, but becauſe I ſee the danger of doing the whole buſineſs of the ordinary corrector by myſelf ſometimes, and other whiles truſting him to do mine. What I ſhall do as to the matter of printing, I ſhall look to it myſelf, and ſend you patterns of paper and letter, but act by Mr. *Robinſon*, becauſe I will have his care jointly with my own in the proviſions for printing, and his trade muſt be uſed in the diſperſing of the books, as it is in my own books, with whom therefore the profit muſt be divided, which, as is eaſily computed, muſt not be expected overmuch in 500 copies.

WHAT you ſpeak of the tranſlating of thoſe experiments into *Latin*, is certainly moſt neceſſary and befitting the matter of the piece: and I aſcertain you of what you needed not to have beſpoke any help or aſſiſtance, that I may further you with herein, or in any other matter within my ſphere; and that either by myſelf, or friends, or both, according as your buſineſs, mine, or other circumſtances ſhall require. However, the perfection and compliment of ſuch tranſlation cannot be ſo made, as to be publiſhed without your own reviſe. My faithful humble ſervice to your honour being duly preſented, I reſt,

SIR,

your honour's in all dutiful
and affectionate obſervance,
R. SHARROCK.

DR. *Willis*, *Dickenſon*, and Mr. *Stahl*, preſent you with their ſervice.

SIR, *April* 9, 1660.

IN return to yours of *April* the 7th, after my humble ſervice, this may confirm to you my intentions of abiding in *Oxon* this ſpring and ſummer by God's furtherance, and that I ſhall be willing to employ a very conſiderable part of my time upon any buſineſs you ſhall employ me. I have employed ſeveral hands in your tranſlation, but the variety of words and phraſes that occur proper to divers mechanical trades, and the whole matter being ſo different from that they are ordinarily converſant with (which is generally the vulgar philoſophy, humanity, and divinity) it happens, that after much aſſiſtance given them as to words and phraſes, their help is ſo inconſiderable, that in ſome I have been forced to alter every period in every ſentence. However, I hope and queſtion not, but this will be tranſlated for you ready for the preſs by *Midſummer*.

AND, Sir, you are to conſider, that it is not very proper, eſpecially for me, that communicate the copy, to begin the tranſlation before the *Engliſh* be printed; and ſo the time of its being ſet forth will not be ſo ſoon as the *Latin*. The thing that I ſhall willingly promiſe, ſhall be, that except only ſome ſtudies altogether neceſſary for me, which will not take up one half of my ſtudying time, I ſhall do no other buſineſs but yours in this overlooking the copy, the preſs, and rendering them in *Latin*. Though I ſhall notwithſtanding employ Mr. *Robinſon* to manage the copies as his own, and require for this grant not much *per* ſheet. Nor can I, when he ſhall only have five hundred

hundred to diſpoſe. I have here ſent one ſheet; the other is not come off the preſs to

your honour's humbly devoted ſervant,
R. SHARROCK.

PRAY, Sir, ſend more copy.

SIR,

I HAVE long waited for this opportunity to give your honour an account of Mr. *Stahl*'s next courſe, in order to your lad's improvement in chemiſtry, which now in ſhort he gives me thus. That though he ſhall be employed by ſome doctors on particular buſineſs, yet he ſhall not go through any exact courſe till after *Chriſtmas*; and then he promiſes, if you pleaſe to ſend him, to make him operate with his own hands; which he cannot do now, the perſons that employ him requiring him to uſe their own ſervants. I intend, God willing, by *Moore* next week to ſend your honour a packet, therein to preſent you with (beſides a trifle of my own writing) ſome of your own more nobly penned and more learnedly written ſheets; and withal a pattern of that powder, which I diſſolved by diſtilled *May* dew. I have likewiſe incloſed ſent you the copy of our proceſs, wherewith M. *St.* made the aqua cochleariæ ſpiritualis. For, as I remember, you once mentioned a deſire of the ſight of theſe toys, if indeed the ſpirit of ſcurvy graſs deſerve no better name. I intend for the country, if the weather and my health ſerve me, the beginning of the next week, but muſt make it my moſt humble requeſt, that your honour would expedite the whole copy (as ſoon as it may ſtand with your honour's convenience) of the tract *of the Uſefulneſs*, &c. For the paper has lain by as long as the book would have been ſold in the time, it bearing the credit of ſuch an author. I hearken more to the requeſts of Mr. *Robinſon*, becauſe I know he will be a loſer by having this *Latin* book of the phyſico-mechanical experiments printed ſmaller beyond ſeas; though for that I have promiſed and intend him ſome amends. The tract of Uſefulneſs being for want of more copy laid by, I have lately ſet the preſs on work with the *Engliſh* phyſico-mechanical experiments, which they have promiſed ſhall perfectly be done by my return after *Chriſtmas*; ſo that it lies upon me to make a ſecond requeſt for the ſupplement, or thoſe other tracts you mentioned, which you thought would make the ſecond impreſſion of the phyſico-mechanical engine a competent quarto, in which volume it is now begun, that it may bear a part anſwerable to your other books. I intend not to return till the latter end of *January*, and therefore I ſet them on that printed (and upon my reviſe at the tranſlation exactly lettered and pointed) piece, becauſe they cannot err in my abſence; which they would do too frequently in your written copy, notwithſtanding all their correctors. I have put them in hope, that they ſhall have all their copy at my return. I leave it to your honour (ſtill with a proviſo for your greater occaſions) to maintain my reputation therein. The letter in behalf of Mr. *John Maſter* the adventurer in *Ireland*, to ſignify, that the bearer is the perſon, for whoſe caſe your deſired favour is expected here, if your honour pleaſes to incloſe it in a blank paper to Mr. *Edward Maſter*, ſenior fellow of New College, your honour will both oblige him and the humbleſt of your honour's ſervants,

ROBERT SHARROCK.

Noble SIR, *Jan.* 29, 1667.

I THOUGHT to have preſented you with ſome of my medicated bread by the return of *Tho. Egerton*, which I made with ſcurvy graſs, ſage, or any other herb, and find it very uſeful, and a good way to prevent and cure divers of the chronical diſeaſes, that are common in this over humid iſland; but coming to me on the very day

of his intended journey to *Oxford*, he finds me quite unprovided; and therefore promiſing your honour a taſte of more of theſe kinds than one, I write myſelf a debtor until ſome further opportunity. A thing that doth much good alſo in fits of the mother, and convulſions in children, and hath cured divers with us, is a mixture of a water made by diſtilling fever-few [matricaria] in ale, and the finer oil of amber: for want of which oil I many times uſe the tincture of amber in ℈. a few drops of either of which turn the diſtilled water into a thickneſs and whiteneſs like milk. I have uſed great quantities of this medicine with good ſucceſs both in women and children, and have cured perſons of all qualities with it, ſo that they have continued well for ſome years, and I expect every day to hear of more good done by it.

I ACQUAINTED you then, that I think the ſcurvy may be cured by turpentine diſtilled in balneo, *cum ſpecificis*, better than any other way. For the ſpecifics are feeble alone; and ſteel leaves an ill impreſſion upon the body, and drieth too much not without danger of the lungs. *Fonſeca* was the firſt man that ever hinted it to me, but this way is naught: for the boiling turpentine to pills ſends out the ſpirit, that is more ſovereign. I diſtil it moſt gently, that the water may come as oily as I can, with as little oil as may be ſwimming, which I either ſeparate or not, according to the ſtomach of the patient. The falſe news I heard in *Oxford* concerning my lord, did at the ſudden and firſt apprehenſion ſo diſcompoſe me, that I have now a ſecond, that I made but a troubleſome viſit: for I remember I had then no thoughts but of him, not out of intereſt of my own; but I know his integrity ſo well, and his careleſſneſs of court, which moſt men regard ſo much, and value others by, that I thought it might be true. And conſidering, that I thought the world would think he had miſcarried, I fear I ſhewed ſo much concern for him, to whom indeed I owe much, that if I miſcarried in want of due reſpects to your honour, this apology I hope will be able to beg an excuſe for,

SIR,

your honour's moſt obliged ſervant,

RO. SHARROCK.

Noble and ever honoured SIR, *Horwode, April* 7, 1668.

I WAS loth to let *Egerton* return empty to your honour; and therefore having no readier preſent, I have ſent four rolls of ſuch medicated bread, as we commonly uſe, and alter *pro re natâ*, as is uſual in medical beers. Theſe are made the eaſieſt way only by ſhredding the leaves, and moulding them in the dough: ſomewhat a finer way, when we have plenty of the herb, is, mingling the juice with milk, and making the dough therewith, or in herbs, that give no juice, as ſage, to make a ſtrong decoction in milk, or for a need in water, and make dough with it, though ſage bread is made very well this way. I have known ſage bread do much good in drying up watery humours; and when we have had infectious diſeaſes among us, we conceived this angelica bread to be of good uſe among us. Egrimony bread is alſo very pleaſant, and certainly a good epatic ſcurvy-graſs ferments well in bread, but will retain its mucid taſte, that it hath in beer and in broths. Medicated beers I uſe as much, and I think it an error in phyſicians, that they preſcribe their alterated ales to be drunk too new, before they are defecated and made fit to penetrate. Aqua limacum, according to the receipt ſent to your honour, I find (I think) the very greateſt medicine, that is ſtilled in the veſica, which is a ſtill with me continually employed: divers gallons of that water have I uſed this year, with ſtrange ſucceſſes in all obſtructions, icterical, hydropical, ſcorbutical: for I am moſt for chronical diſeaſes, becauſe I ſee therein the power of a medicine: in the rickets I do all with medicated breads and beers,

beers, and ſometimes ſome doſes of my aquæ limacum. But I have the fault of phyſicians, I ſtick not punctually to receipts, but accommodate my preſcriptions to my materia medica. For what I preſcribe I give for the moſt part.

As for domeſtic or œconomic uſes of chemical preparations, I will venture to commend this one, which I found out this ſpring. Coming to this houſe, that is an old houſe of ſtone, the cupboards, wherein the maids threw the foul table linen, were full of ruſty ſweating nails. Theſe gave that ſort of linen the iron-mold, and that linen gave it to all the reſt. For whatever an iron-mold touches in linen, when wet, it infects. After divers experiments, which we found either noxious to the linen, or unſucceſsful to the ſtains, I gave them a glaſs of oleum ſalis, which I had had by me ever ſince *Stahl* wrought with me: this being dipped on with a pencil, and laid a day or two abroad with the whitening clothes, took out the iron-molds and all other ſtains perfectly (without any harm to the linen) upon their being waſhed: nay, many ſorts of ſtains vaniſhed immediately upon their being touched with this oil.

I HAVE tried to hatch thoſe little pullets eggs, that are not above three quarters of an inch diameter, and have no yolks, but with ſuch ill luck, that I was not able to make any conſiderable obſervation. I ſhould have tried them in birds neſts.

I HAVE been lately conſidering the medical laws, in the book of *Leviticus*, and it ſhall be with me at leaſt *diſputabilis opinio*, that very many of them were intended to have a medical uſe, as well as a ſacramental or ſymbolical one. Our Saviour went about curing diſeaſes, or rather healing them; and why ſhould it be for the diſhonour of a lawgiver, to have regard to the prevention and cure of endemic diſeaſes? I will grant Mr. *Calvin*, (for that is moſt true and undoubted) that they were commended to the people, by being made ſymbolical alſo. But it is time, that from this digreſſion I ſubſcribe myſelf,

SIR,

your honour's moſt obliged ſervant,

RO. SHARROCK.

IF your honour have any ol. ſalis, or other medical matter, that you ſhall not uſe, "give, and it ſhall be given," and your honour ſhall be ſure to have an account of the ſucceſs.

LETTERS *from Dr.* EDWARD POCOCKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Oxon, Baliol Coll. Oct.* 5, 1660.

I MUST in the firſt place entreat your pardon for my great incivility, in that I have not written ſooner to you, to give you thanks for a book of your own excellent experiments, that I received from Mr. *Robinſon*, the ſtationer, by your appointment. But I deferred it, hoping, before this time, to have given you account of the finiſhing of *Grotius*. Though my own diſtractions be great, that I could not attend, as I deſired, the buſineſs (for whereas I had hoped to have found ſome ſettlement here, I can yet find none, having ſtill to deal with thoſe that are too hard for me, and keep me out of my right) yet I muſt needs caſt the blame of this delay on the printer, though he wanted not for calling on. I hope now, that by the middle of next week all may be done. In the ſixth book, I thought it neceſſary to put no other things for matter of hiſtory, than will be acknowledged by the *Mahometans*. And indeed *Grotius* himſelf was of that opinion. And therefore I have left out what is ſaid of the pigeon flying to *Mahomet*'s ear; and that the mouſe was bred of the camels dung; and that half the moon came into his ſleeve; and ſome few things are ſo altered, as that they might

rather agree with what they themſelves affirm, than what others rhetorically deſcant on the ſtory. Sir, that acknowledgment, which ought to be made of your great good intentions in this work, I ſuppoſe will be better ordered, ſo as to be put in with thoſe copies, which ſhall have the *Latin* bound with them, and be retained in Chriſtian countries, than neceſſarily annexed with the *Arabic*. For I think it will be better that any, which ſhould be ſent unto thoſe eaſtern parts, ſhould go without any name or title of perſons or place, whence they come, leſt the good thereby intended might by ſome malicious men, under that pretence, be hindered. But if you pleaſe to order it otherwiſe, your commands ſhall be obſerved. Sir, I muſt crave your pardon for all defects, which will be found in the work. My deſires were to ſerve the church, and your noble ſelf: wherein I have failed, I hope your candour will impute it not to want of will, but ability. I crave leave,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

EDW. POCOCKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Oxon, January* 3, 1660.

YOUR goodneſs hath emboldened me to ſend up to you this incloſed note, deſiring, if opportunity may ſerve, by your mediation to procure them from *Aleppo*. I have formerly written thither for them, but could never receive anſwer; which makes me deſire the aſſiſtance of your credit, which I hope may more prevail. The former are to be gotten from among the *Jews*, and by the hand of ſome *Jew*, with which ſort of people the *Engliſh* merchants there have continual negotiation. And I doubt not, but if any of them would make it a buſineſs, they might be procured, either at *Aleppo*, or from *Damaſcus*, or the like places. I conceive they are books, which might be much to the common advantage of that ſort of learning, more perhaps than thoſe that ordinarily we have, which makes me much deſire them; and among the other parts of *R. Tanchum*'s book, that he calls Al *Biyan*, which are notes on the ſcripture; eſpecially his firſt part, wherein he hath *præmiſſa generalia* to the reſt of his work, and concerning ſuch things as ought to be heeded to in the interpreting of ſcripture. He often cites it under the title of כלליות or Generalia, in his other parts, ſome of which I have, and wiſh for that and the reſt. *Cozari* I hear is coming forth in *Hebrew* and *Latin* at *Baſil*. I wiſh therefore we could ſee it in *Arabic*, as it was by *R. Judah* firſt written. The latter two books, the titles of which I have written in *Arabic*, are to be had from the Chriſtians there. And I would our men could procure ſome other of their ancient books. We know too little of what is among them. Sir, I beſeech you, pardon this great boldneſs. I with more confidence beg it, becauſe my deſign is not for private but public intereſt; yet, Sir, I ſhall look on what favour you do in this reſpect, as a great heightening of thoſe obligations (if they may be heightened) in which I ſtand engaged already to you.

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

EDW. POCOCKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Oxon, March* 13, 1660.

AFTER the receipt of your letter, as ſoon as I could ſpeak with Mr. *Clarke*, (for he was not then in town) I deſired him, that 200 copies of *Grotius* might be gathered by the printer, to be ſent up to you; and being then to go out of the town, hoped, that at my return I ſhould have found them either to have been ſent, or ready

to

to be ſent; but it proved otherwiſe, yet I hope to no diſadvantage; the occaſion for which his ſending them was delayed, being (as he tells me) that ſuch faults, as were eſcaped in the printing, might be mended with the pen. This day it is promiſed that ſome ſhall go forwards towards *London*, and others follow; which I hope will come ſafe to your hands, as the reſt alſo, when you ſhall ſee fit to have them thither. I ſhall, Sir, accept of your favour, in making bold with ſome few copies; and have made bold likewiſe to ſend incloſed ſome more papers, with the names of thoſe books, according to that courteous intimation in your letter; having added to the former one other grammatical tract of *Abu Walid:* as likewiſe *Avicen* (entitled in the *Latin* tranſlation *de Almahad) de reſurrectione*; which laſt may, perhaps, moſt probably be had at *Conſtantinople*. Sir, give me leave to propoſe to you, whether at the end of the *Turkiſh* Catechiſm, it may not be convenient to have the Lord's Prayer, and the Creed, printed in *Arabic*. I ceaſe at preſent farther to trouble you, and take leave, deſiring, wherein I may, to approve myſelf,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

EDWARD POCOCKE.

I HOPE, Sir, that together with the books you ſhall receive a copy of *Tograi*'s poem, here printed, though not worthy your acceptance, yet as a token of unfeigned reſpects.

A BOOKBINDER, that promiſed to bind up a book or two in imitation of the *Eaſtern* mannner, hath failed: but, Sir, if they be bound up either in leather or vellum, ſo as that they may open well, and little of the margin taken away, it may do well.

Moſt worthily honoured Sir, *Oxon, Chriſt-Church, Dec.* 2, 1662.

IT was my unhappineſs in my ſhort ſtay at *London*, not to have opportunity of waiting on you. I made bold to leave at the lady *Ranelagh*'s a copy of *Gregorius*, *Arabic* and *Latin*, which I hope is come to your hands. If at leiſure you ſhall pleaſe to caſt an eye on it, and find in it any thing to anſwer expectation, your good word and approbation will help vindicate it from that contempt, which, with other men uſed to writings of another kind, it is likely to find. However, I doubt not of your favourable acceptance, and pardon of thoſe defects which will be found in it. Thoſe, to whom the edition belongs, are yet in diſpute whether they ſhall print ſome index to it; which being a matter of delay, and I having done (as I ſuppoſe) my work, I was willing it ſhould come among the firſt to your noble hands. Sir, I crave leave,

your moſt humble ſervant,

EDWARD POCOCKE.

LETTERS *from Dr.* JOHN BEALE *to Mr.* BOYLE.

October 4, 1661.

I HAVE lately overbuſied you about a character worthy the knowledge of greateſt ſecretaries; which, as at this time it is ſomewhat more ripened by my own experience, ſo I ſhall herein give you a clearer model of it. You did once well accept of a civil problem, which, in ſpecie, or by tranſcript, (at your own choice) you may pleaſe to communicate to my couſin *Pye*, allowing him to ſhew it alſo to Mr. *Sherwyne*, whom I do chooſe to be witneſſes, that I engage my reputation, and all that I am worth,

worth, for the full performance, according to every article ſubcribed. The time was, when a great counſellor told to Mr. *Sherwyne*, that if my better employment did not forbid it, I had been fit to be a ſecretary, *&c.* Now I dare allow to aſk ſecretary *Nicholas*, whether he knows any man that can go beyond this? I ſhall hereafter ſhew you, that I learned my art of no man?

A mnemonical problem, Nov. 4, 1661.

1. To deviſe millions of millions of characters, each one ſo apparently differing from each other, throughout the whole immenſe variety, that the eye at firſt glance ſhall diſcern and diſtinguiſh the difference.

2. IN a mnemonical table, to appoint a diſtinct place proper for every diſtinct character.

3. BY this mnemonical table, and the art thereunto belonging, to find, ſuggeſt, and provide the proper character for each peculiar place, and with ready apprehenſion of the proper importance of the character; which, for the moſt part, containeth a whole *Engliſh* word, a real matter or buſineſs.

4. To produce the proper character in the proper place, and in readineſs for every occaſion, accordingly as the immenſe variety of occaſions may be offered; and all this in a moment, or in a twinkle of the eye.

5. To deviſe for this performance characters all of ſuch eaſy draughts, that any ordinary ſecretary or clerk may at firſt trial be prompt in it, and engroſs them with diſpatch.

6. To deviſe that theſe characters of ſuch immenſe variety may (notwithſtanding the variety) be printed with ſo much eaſe and facility, as ſhall only require (at moſt) double pains of other printing. [This I lay down for fuller caution of liquid truth in all points, being of opinion, that it may be printed with more eaſe and far greater diſpatch than other writings.] Of the one I am ſure; of the other I will call it but hope, till I ſee the trial.

7. To change the ſhape, and alſo the force of this character, and to vary it into millions of millions of guiſes, to prevent the treachery of diſcovery, as oft as occaſion or care of ſafety ſhall require.

To the clauſes 3, 4, 5, 7, note, that the characters are not written in the peculiar places of the table; for that would engage and fix the memory to thoſe characters alone, and thereby hinder the further uſe of the mnemonical table; or at leaſt foreſtal againſt that variety, which may be neceſſary to prevent diſcovery; but, which is far better and more ſtrange, and indeed the main point of the ſecret, the characters are retained in the mind, and, in a moment, producible in fit order for any kind of occaſion.

ALL this, the reading, writing, uſe and practice, ſo the learner be willing, and of ordinary capacity and ſkill in clerkſhip, I undertake to teach with eaſe, due vacancies, and refreſhments, in one week. To this I engage my credit, and all that I am worth.

JOHN BEALE.

Honourable Sir, *Feb.* 25, 1662.

I HAVE made thus bold with you, for which I begged pardon by *Monday* carrier in a ruder draught; for then I was conſtrained to force my Pegaſus to out-run the carrier's horſe. And thus we deal with God and good men all over. We beg pardon, and commit the ſame faults in the ſame breath. Now I am to acquaint you, that there are in my hands five very large parchments of ſtrange alphabets, titles, and notations, which

which old Mr. *Hartlib* beſtowed upon me, as the device of *Caleb Morley*, who (at a great age) ſhewed the moſt wonderful ſpecimen of artificial memory, that was ever ſhewed, as I think: and the *Engliſh* court (for many years) ſaw the proof of it. But by his death (which was ſudden by a fall from his horſe) theſe rolls are laid aſide as unintelligible; and the art deplored as irrecoverably loſt, or the author ſuſpected of magic. Now, by caſting my eye on the rolls, I am become confident that I can interpret every line, tittle, and blot (for thoſe alſo are ſeveral kinds of mnemonical marks.) And I can point out in which order every parcel is to be learned (for that is alſo no ſmall difficulty, and no remark left, by which we might diſcern which roll is 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.) And there are ſome blinds, which for ſome time my eye had not diſcerned; now I have found them, and know their uſe. And that theſe rolls were apprehended by Dr. *Goade* (then chaplain to the archbiſhop, and famous at *Dort*, a ſtiff and ſtaunch perſon) to be uſeful, may appear by theſe words in the cloſe of the laſt roll under his hand.

This alphabet, conſiſting of five pieces of parchment, and being a diſpoſure of vowels and conſonants, tending to an art of facility and method invented by Mr. Caleb Morley, *and preſented by him to the king's majeſty, I have peruſed, and think it convenient and profitable to the purpoſe of the author, and therefore fit according to his deſire to be printed and publiſhed by his appointment and to his uſe.*

Croyden, Sept. 17, 1623. THOMAS GOADE.

SIR,

THIS I refer to your own private thoughts, not offering to engage the Royal Society in it. For I take notice what prejudice moſt learned men have againſt all diſcourſes of artificial memory; yet we cannot deny it the ſuffrage of the greateſt wits that ever were; *Ariſtotle*, *Cicero*, *Quintilian*, *Aquinas*, *Murett*, lord *Bacon:* to theſe I could add hundreds. And I know I could once boaſt of a natural memory beyond belief, but I found it true that Mr. *Hales* foretold me, the firſt grey hair would ſignify the decay of it; and ſince I have had ſome regard and aid from ſome methods of artificial memory.

BUT above all in preſent, I take notice what vaſt aid might be to the memory in the very printing of books that are worthy to be learned in the reading. And for this cauſe I do account, that by our prints we are at ſome loſs in that we have omitted the beautifying letters, which in manuſcripts did very diſtinctly adorn the fronts of chapters and ſections. And other golden and fine ornaments they had, which gave mnemonical remarks to main joints, and theſe were (in *Solomon*'s language) as ſtuds and nails to faſten the memorandum. Neither were they of old at ſo great coſt only to pleaſe children, as with painted babies. Therefore I am ſorry the *Elzeverian* and other excellent printers have deſpiſed theſe beauties.

AND that you may ſee I have primitive antiquity, zealous fathers, and firſt eccleſiaſtical liturgies on my ſide for theſe and more ſacred uſes, I have herewith ſent you a tranſcript out of St. *Hierom*'s preface to the *New Teſtament*; which, beſides the flouriſh of the cut, may bring *Caneparius de Atramentis* in ſome requeſt for variety of beautifying colours. And though I love picture very much, yet this I prefer (for the ſubſtantial aid) before Mr. *Bloome*'s ornament. And this may be ſo deviſed, as to be no great charge nor much interruption to the preſs. And for ſome books, they deſerve (by a round value) to be ſo far guarded from proletary uſe. To theſe I would recommend the mnemonical characters of *Publicius*, and thoſe added by *John Pœpp* in his *Artificioſa Memoriæ fundamenta. Tu hujuſmodi alphabetum ex inſtrumentis à Publicio excogitatum accipito, ſed ſi ex benè feriatis fueris, ac hujus artis avidus, facilè proprio Marte melius*

melius formabis. It is eaſy to propoſe variety of excellent and divine efficacy; and this can be no hurt to natural memory. Sir, I hope you will ſometimes give me leave thus to whiſper into your own ear, which I dare not offer to the whole body of the Royal Society.

Honourable Sir,

your vowed ſervant,

B.

Domino illuſtriſſimo Roberto Boyle, *&c.*

J. B. S. P. D.

I Pete, muſa, virum, purâ qui mente colendus.
Quid tibi ſuffuſis ignibus cra rubent!
Tu mollis nimium, nimium licet ille ſeveri
Judicii cenſor, cum juvat, eſſe poteſt.
Non tamen arbitrium vereare ſubire faventis:
In caput haud ſtringet ſpicula dira tuum.
Dumque litas animi grati lætique lepore,
In te nil juris triſte tribunal habet.
Ex merito poſſit te quamvis ore verendo
Excipere, aut tetricâ ſpernere fronte levem,
Ille, nec officio dedignaturus amici,
Aſſeret amplexu, propitiâque manu;
Inceptumque tuum pacatâ mente fovebit,
Nec renuet, quamvis ſpargere es auſa ſales:
Non tibi, muſarum magnum decus, ilia adurit
Virus amicitiam ſuſpicione gravans;
Neve ſupercilium curvos confringis in orbes,
Cum mea ſunt manibus ſcripta recepta tuis.
Exul abi, timor omnis; habet ſecurus amator,
Quo ſua cuncta poteſt condere ſenſa, ſinum.
Cur ungues ſaperet demorſos, ter repetitis
Ante tuos tornis litera trita pedes!
Artificem temnit limam, complexibus apta
Simplicibus, pulſat quæ tibi muſa fores;
Inque tui cordis penetralia rectius ibunt
Quæ ſubito fundam, nec meditatus ego:
Nec mirum eſt pedibus ſi ceſpitet illa, citatos
Quæ ſuperat curſu læta Thalia notos.
Vatibus æthereus juſtis exundet oportet
Spiritus, & pleno Nectar in ore fluens.
Mene mihi novoſi gyaris compreſſa Lycæi
Sic reſpirandi geſtit habere vicem.
Tu quoque quid ſenium primis accerſis in annis!
Verna quidem lux eſt anteferenda nivi.
Lætitiæ comes eſt riſuſque, jocuſque, Venuſque,
Ipſe Cupido puer, nudaque trina Charis:
Triſtitiæ comites, livorque, horrorque, furorque,
In cædem & rutilis anguibus acta ſoror
Vos, O rectores populi, queis cingitur auro
Frons Auguſta, oris vos prohibete minas.
Hinc lites, hic inſidiæ, nec ab hoſpite tutus
Hoſpes, ubi eſt luctu fas violare lares.
Ille ſuis fatis injurius, ille benignis
Ingratus, cui non ampliat ora lepos.
Invidus & patriæ, qui ſeclo debita nondum
Agnoſcit Britonum gaudia fixa ſolo.
Ecce & adhuc magnas durat conventus, abeſte
Quotquot in his damno creditis eſſe locum.
Pallet Iber, trepidat Gallus, caput improba Roma
Dejicit, & lentè coccina longa trahit.
Nunc licet amoto ſordes velamine totas
Cernere, nunc oculis ulcera nulla patent.
Debellata ſuos faſtus jam ponit Ierne,
Viſque infida, ultra nec recidiva, cadit.
Jamque Tago uberiora tument æraria regi,
Nunc & opes Indus fundit uterque ſuas.
Hoc qui contractâ meditatur fronte, malignus,
Credatur, legum fulchra ruenda ſtudet.
Te quoque ſeraphicos tinxiſſe lepore calores
Æterno agnoſcet Lindamor obſequio. [*dus,*
Nec minus aptus eras vel in aëre prendere pon-
Et quibus anguicalis urget ubique ſolum.
Sic, ubi perpetuis conduntur vellera gyris,
Arctè comprimitur, qui petit ima, glomus.
Quis modus & quantum eſt auræ vitale, & inane
Quid valet, ipſe oculis per tua vitra probas.
Ignis ad aſtra licet pernicibus avolat alis,
Spargit & eoos heſperioſque ſimul,
Siſtis, & arte tuâ proprios affigis ad uſus,
Ne ſuperet juſſum deſtituatve tuum:
Omn aque ex omni extorques elementa elemento,
Nec manet exuccus, te prohibente, cinis.
Quidlibet ex quovis, opifex divine, recudis,
Si non materiam ſuggeris, ipſe facis.

Ornatu polles ſophiæ, virtutis & artis,
Nulla tamen frontem ruga moroſa fodit.
Clara Boylorum proles, ignoſce fatenti,
Majus es, & noſtris viribus impar onus.

Succumbendum igitur, ſed in hoc mihi gloria reſtat,
Quod fari nequeo, mente animoque colo.

E cœno Somerſetenſi, Feb. 25, 1662-3.

Tui obſervantiſſimus,
J. B.

Honourable Sir, *Yeovell, Somerſetſhire, Sept.* 28, 63.

I HAVE in my heart an ambitious deſire to render you ſome acknowledgments of your favours; but I have no language for it; and am under many reſtraints which ſeem to forbid it. For if I ſhould expoſe my apprehenſions, I ſhould not gratify, but rather afflict your countenance and mine own alſo. And though we may and ought to make the largeſt of our offerings to God for his wonderful works, yet I am not certain that we may give due applauſe in the ſame fulneſs to any mortal: but that we ſhould much rather bleſs God for the gifts which he hath given to men; and make a right uſe of ſuch bleſſings, as he communicates by human aids, for ourſelves, neighbours, and poſterity. Sir, in your behalf I praiſe God, who taught you in your childhood to offer to him the beſt of ſacrifices, far better than innumerable hecatombs; and then for putting it into your heart to aſk for that wiſdom, which he was pleaſed to grant to you; and then for enabling you, in the firſt bloſſoming of your youth, to inſtruct the wiſeſt how they alſo may offer a like acceptable offering to the father of all wiſdom; and in a factious age to direct all diſſenters to the moſt reaſonable liturgy. And now you have exemplified to the living, and to all poſterity, how they may receive from heaven into one center, and communicate to each other, all the obliging beams of nature, grace and art; and how we may heal our animoſities, verbal quarrels, diviſions, and diſtinctions, by freely taſting of the pure fountain of all good, and by freely diſtributing what we have freely received; that we neither divide the author of all graces from the author of all good arts and natural operations, nor divide ourſelves about fruitleſs verboſities.

BUT withal, Sir, you cannot forbid me to be much raiſed in my heart, to find ſuch univerſal obligings to condeſcend to particular and perſonal favours towards me. Yet I ſee I can do no better than ſome devout cowards, who ſay, that their prayers gave good aſſiſtance for the victory, which was gotten by other men's valiant atchievements.

BEING thus far at a loſs (till I was better directed by a ſurpriſing kindneſs from you on *Saturday*) my beſt and intended deſign of gratefulneſs was not unlike a poor man's ſhift, in *Cambridge*, who, finding himſelf unable to pay Dr. *Winterton* for his medical care of him in his ſickneſs, beſtowed by legacy his body on the doctor, for the beſt payment he could make. And our later experience (from lord *Bacon*'s advertiſements) confirming, that the anatome of the living is more inſtructive than of the dead, I began to make haſte, whilſt I drew breath, to give you the beſt and fulleſt inſpection that could be deviſed, of my moſt reſerved phyſiognomy. And truly, I think, that kind of medical aid is ſomewhat wanting: for if perſons, that have ran many hazards of life, by various diſeaſes or ſickly complexions, ſhould ſhew their abilities herein, as faithfully as I was willing to ſhew my affections; this would ſometimes explain ſome of the cauſes why many medicines prove ſo feeble, and would diſcover many ſpecifical medicines, which are not yet vulgarly known, eſpecially if arrived to my years, which are ripened under the proverbial dilemma of a phyſician, or a fool. Being alſo many times brought to the *Elyſian* borders by conſumptions, that affrighted the doctors; and ſometimes by unſatiable fevers and chronical inflammations, for many years together, becoming a fit engine on which (as on your pneu-

matical glaſs) you might receive an anſwer to all your demands, and ſee viſibly the difference of all waters, drinks, diets; and remark all correſpondency of parts, how by outward applications to operate on the entrails; how by inward reliefs to allay outward griefs. And I believe you would accept of this ſervice, if it were offered by a more happy hand, as from ſome acute perſon, whoſe ſpirit held a more intelligent correſpondence with the more elementary parts of his body throughout. And truly this was in my thoughts, when I communicated ſtudies with our moſt ingenious virtuoſo Mr. *E. Waller* at *Beconsfield*, when he had a full family, a wife, himſelf, his mother, Mrs. *Tomkins*, and his other ſiſter, his niece *Crooke* (now the lady *Speke*) all complaining againſt the winds of the ſpleen; yet moſt of them ſurviving to confirm my paradox, that a *Venice* glaſs, by ſuch aſſiduous and careful preſervation, may laſt as long as a ſtrong *Mazor* chalice. And I have oft times obſerved athletic and ſturdy perſons, by a puff of furious air, blaſty vapour, or poiſonous fog, and a diſtemper thereby wilfully acquired, and obſtinately neglected, ſent haſtily to their graves, whilſt others (far more faint and feeble) have taken the firſt touch, as a ſeaſonable advertiſement for their eſcape, or cure. But this argute employment were fitter for the happy pen of your acute neighbour Mr. *Waller*, than for my dulneſs.

SIR, I fear I have tired you already, before I have made anſwer to your commands. And now I can only promiſe to give you a weekly trouble with ſome of the rudeſt rudera, which, in the beſt of my hopes, may poſſibly ſome of them ſerve in that ſylva of promiſcuous experiments, upon which you may diſcharge ſuch of your papers and informations as are impertinent, or ſupernumerary for your other arguments in hand. And it is almoſt neceſſary, that ſuch a work ſhould be rejoined to your phyſiological eſſays, which were abroad by *Herringman*, 1661. And I have a ſolicitouſneſs, that *Daniel* (who is both a *Londoner* and *Cantabrigian*) ſhould receive ſome of your commands for the public. His character is very fair; and it ſomewhat pertaineth to the advance of political conduct: for there you have a fair regiment of diſciples. And, though *Oxford* be your right hand, yet why ſhould not you uſe your both hands in ſuch a noble work?

SIR, I do heartily wiſh you very much happineſs, but not much reſt from theſe your troubles, theſe half hundred years.

S I R,

your moſt entire, and
truly faithful ſervant,

J. B.

OF mnemonicals I muſt give you a fuller account, when you can be at more leiſure.

Τα Μνημονικα.

S I R, *Sept.* 29, 1663.

OBEDIENCE is better than ſacrifices, the beſt that my poor fold can yield; therefore my firſt regard is to your commands. You require animadverſions, ſupplements, and chiefly mnemonicals. I begin with the laſt.

IT is a very trifle, as if it were to make pins and place them in rows, or wire cards for the clothiers; which, without the right art, is an ugly hard work; and the art itſelf is but a ſlight and contemptible device.

IF you ſhall pleaſe to examine what *Ariſtotle*, *Cicero*, *Quintilian*, and *Aquinas* have written, with great wit and diligence recommending the art, and ſpecifying all the parts of it, you will find it conſiſt of as few and ſimple elements, as does the *Turkiſh* muſic;

muſic; two ſtrings, or three at moſt; two notes, or three in all. *Ordinem eſſe maxime, qui memoriæ lumen afferret*, ſaith *Cicero*, from his own experience, and, upon the authority of *Simonides*, *Itaque iis, qui hanc partem ingenii exercerent, locos eſſe capiendos, & ea, quæ memoria tenere vellent, effingenda animo, atque in his locis collocanda; ſic fore, ut ordinem rerum locorum ordo conſervaret, res autem ipſas rerum effigies notaret, atque ut locis pro cerâ, ſimulachris pro literis uteremur.* Theſe few being all the parts, and theſe being ſo argutely illuſtrated by thoſe four forenamed leading wits, ſo fully and moſt elaborately by *Quintilian*, there remains nothing for any ſober man to undertake; only the practice is our part and duty; and that is indeed the ſum total.

AND truly, in my childhood, I found that all the art was a kind of clock-work, or wheel-engine, as *Ariſtotle* deſcribes it. The joining of ſpring wheels, and other parts of the watch, in ſuch coherence, that, by the touch of any part, the whole and every part may be put in motion, and yet all in order.

AND by reading *Ovid*'s *Metamorphoſes* and ſuch ſlight romances, as the *Deſtruction of Troy*, and other diſcourſes and hiſtories, which were then obvious, I had learned a promptneſs of knitting all my reading and ſtudies on an everlaſting ſtring. The ſame practice I continued upon theologues, logicians, and ſuch philoſophers as thoſe times yielded. For ſome years before I came to *Eton*, I did (in ſecret corners, concealed from others eyes) read *Melanchon*'s Logics, *Magirus*'s *Phyſica*, *Urſin*'s *Theologica*, which was the beſt I could then hear of: and (at firſt reading) by heart I learned them, too perfectly, as I now conceive. Afterwards, in *Cambridge*, proceeding in the ſame order and diligence with their logicians, philoſophers, and ſchoolmen, I could at laſt learn them by heart faſter than I could read them; I mean by the ſwifteſt glance of the eye, without the tediouſneſs of pronouncing or articulating what I read. Thus I oft-times ſaved my purſe, by looking over books in ſtationers ſhops; and good reaſon, when I grew to the maturity of diſcerning, that much more was publiſhed under great names and high pretences than was fit to be recorded. Conſtantly I repeated in my bed (evening and morning) what I read and heard, that was worthy to be remembered. And by this habitude and promptneſs of memory I was enabled, that when I read to the ſtudents of *King's College*, *Cambridge* (which I did for two years together, in all ſorts of the current philoſophy) I could provide myſelf without notes (by mere meditation, or by glancing upon ſome book) in leſs time than I ſpent in uttering it: yet they were then a critical auditory, whilſt Mr. *Buſt* was ſchoolmaſter of *Eton*. This was no more pains, than to empty the honey into the combs which are prepared ready. And to him that conſidereth how every perfect reader devours the whole period in a moment, before he can pronounce the firſt ſyllable with true emphaſis, it will be no ſtrange nor incredible matter, that one ſhould ſtring up any diſcourſe, and ſort it to known topics, and provide appendent topics for novelties, with an undiſturbed diſpatch.

IN theſe beginnings I accuſed my memory as much as any man, as defective for ſtrange names, words, alphabets and languages, not fully underſtood; but obſerving how, in the prints of thoſe days, the names were printed in a bright *Roman* print (all over the pages liquidly diſtinguiſhed from the black *Engliſh* print) I reviewed them apart, and learning them in order, made ſuch as I had learned a kind of topics, to aſſiſt me in the learning of the reſt, and made them and the paragraphs the handles, on which I did hang the particular branches of the ſtory.

THUS, by the alphabet conſiſting of few elements, and thoſe having their compartitions or reſts upon the vowels (the leading letters linking their formations into ſyllables, as they fell out to be one, two, or more ſyllables) I found a regular aid,

which afterwards would indifferently ſerve for the farther acqueſt of any words, names, or ſtrange language; and the ſpirit delighting in order, relations, parallels, ſimilitudes, and novelties, I did daily learn the names of places, perſons, or things, ſo as to annex them always to ſome former impreſs; which renewed the former impreſſion, and ſecured the new. And thus, by impreſſing the *Parcæ*, *Cyclops*, *Furies*, *Charites*, *Muſes*, *Sybills*, &c. their names, ſignifications, order, and number, one faſtened another, and gave encouragement for like promptneſs in other like matters.

OF theſe and other mnemonical matters I gave ſome account, by way of long letters and eſſays, to Mr. *Hartlib* ſome years ago.

I. IN ſome of theſe eſſays I obſerved miſtakes of ſome, who blame their memories without juſt cauſe.

II. IN others I ſpecified, what eaſy and obvious aids many, that complain of this want, may acquire; always (by particulars) exemplifying the peculiar aids and occaſions, by which ſome were eminently famous for vaſt memories, and how others became notoriouſly defective.

III. IN ſome I diſtinguiſhed the art, habitude, or promptneſs of taking a quick and deep impreſſion of arts, notions, or languages, to retain all firmly, from the verſatile activity of rallying, or calling to order and rank, backwards or forwards, names or things, whether before known, or unknown, at firſt or ſecond hearing.

To obviate a little of this for further illuſtration, I will here put down a few of thoſe propoſitions.

I. TO the firſt, I note, that ſome blame their memories, when they did not take care enough to give a ſufficient charge to their memories, nor a due depth of impreſſion; as when the wife forgot to advertiſe her huſband to avoid an ambuſh; had ſhe had a due care and tenderneſs for her huſband's life, it had wrought ſtrong enough on her fancy, to warm all the blood about her heart to attend her huſband's ſafety. In many ſuch caſes, the default is more from ſtupidity and dulneſs, or careleſſneſs, than from want of memory.

2. SOME commit the truſt to outward and falſe aids, that are irrational, and cannot move, rather than to their own ſpirits and imagination, which is always active, ſtirring, and at hand. Thus the thread tied about the finger, or ring, may deceive, if the care of tying did not help the impreſſion; and thus topics and common places in books, and not in the brain, may make a learned dunce. And for this cauſe, men ſhould take heed of engroſſing in table-books, what they ought to learn by heart, except it be with purpoſe to take it off the table-book into the memory. Otherwiſe they may find *Plato* as true as an oracle, Μεγίστη δὲ φυλακὴ τὸ μὴ γραφειν, ἀλλ' ἐκμανθάνειν, ἃ γὰρ ἐστι τὰ γραφέντα μὴ ἀκ ἐκπεστεῖν. *Fieri enim non poteſt quin ſcripta nobis excidant.* That learning is our own, which we carry about us, and out of the reach of fortune. He that truſts to his table-books, more than to the tables of his minds, hath tempted his fancy to be treacherous or lazy; and is referred to his book in the hour of his need. And hence are ſome ſhepherds and clowns better provided of memory, than ſome more promiſing doctors.

3. SOME excellent wits blame their memory, when it is their nice and hotſpur fancy is in fault. Let me name Mr. *Waller:* when we communicated ſtudies at *Beconsfield*, he told me, that he could not truſt his memory with the Lord's prayer, or a benediction for the table; yet I then admired his prompt ſagacity, both for elegancies of language, and for depth of matter. And ſince thoſe days, the greateſt aſſemblies of *England* have found his harangues impregnable, and the politeſt wits do find enchantments in his poems. His caſe was this. He rode on a winged horſe, *Pegaſus*, whoſe flight was ſo ſwift and fervent, in a progreſs for freſh acqueſts (as the bees on mount *Hybla*)

Hybla) that he could not endure to taſk it, or to fetter it upon repetitions of known things. Or it was the curioſity, delicacy, or niceneſs of his ſpirit, which did rather conſtrain him to blank his mental tables, than to leave there any records, that were not choice and ſingular. And this in calmer ſtile was the caſe of Dr. *Andrews*, and other very profound perſons. And every man's memory is ſo near of kindred to his own ſpirit, that it is generally fit and proper for the engagement of his fancy and affections.

4. SOME do blame the fickleneſs and unconſtancy of their memory. They confeſs, they can recover frequently, but not at call, nor in time of need. It is the caſe of a well ſtored ſalter, or merchant, whoſe wares are not placed in order; or he ſeldom in his own ſhop or warehouſe. His ſtore confounds him, when the fair comes.

So that memory firſt bears the blame for the faults of a dull apprehenſion, which ſhould be awakened by intereſt or concernment. Or, ſecondly, is weakened by the charge and truſt; of which, by oft miſcarriages, we ſhould take warning. Or, thirdly, by a hot and heady hand, which does ſometimes fire the limbec with too much haſte for the extract. Or, fourthly, by mere negligence, and can never be cured, but by aſſiduity and diligence.

II. To the ſecond, For eaſy and obvious aids. It is the firſt rule, that whatever is not offered to the memory upon very eaſy terms, is not duly tendered. For fancy is the receiver and impreſſor. And that is a coy and humourous faculty. It muſt not be ſurcharged with violence, or obtruſion, but gently, by degrees.

2. WE ſhould affect, and inwardly glory in the improvement of our own minds, and lay up there every valuable advertiſement, as fitter to adorn our inſides, than frontiſpieces, walls, and paper books.

3. REASON ſhould wait the moſt acceptable ſeaſons of diſſuading fancy from the adventures of *Phaeton*, and offer ſome entertainments in the moſt pleaſing review. And yet here the fancy (to poet, orator, or other compoſers) is to be allowed much freedom and curioſity. For he that does not love to ſing, *avia Pieridum peragro loca nullius ante trita ſolo*, but permits his memory to be ſo ſtiff, as to give us the ſame (though from the beſt inſpired writers) rather than the reſult from his own alembic, his ſtomach is bad, and his egeſtions nauſeous. I mean, when he undertakes as a compoſer and penman.

4. LET every man love his own home, and adorn his own *Sparta*, and find ſeaſons to put his own ware in order, before he oppreſſeth himſelf with a greater burden. And by ſorting his ware in fit places, he may find in theſe immenſe chambers room and fit places for much more, that henceforth may be produced at command. And a little at ready call, in time of need, is better than a great deal out of reach, or unuſeful. I knew an induſtrious ſtudent (his name was *Deans* and *Combe* too) he ſtudied dictionaries, and had them by heart; but another, with a few hundreds of words, would have written better than he, both in proſe and verſe. For uſe and practice enables us to have our wardrobe at full command. Every poet and orator finds, that when his ſpirit and imagination is heated, he hath ſuch a briſk power over all his new and old notions and readings, words and conceits, and ſuch variety throngs upon him (beyond his own expectation) that he is conſtrained to confeſs inſpiration. To help memory, we muſt not attempt to mend divinity.

5. THE memory of words, names, and unknown language, is indeed a nicer needle-work, and too like the primer's art; and it ſheweth and requireth the ſtrongeſt vigour and firmneſs of a natural memory, as the perception of the ſmalleſt object requireth the cleareſt eye-ſight. And when the cells of memory are replete with phlegm, or debilitated with age, then we remember nothing, but long ſtories; and we have need

of

of table books to regiſter the names of our friends and acquaintances. In this caſe I refer to the phyſician and his elixirs, which may quicken frozen, benumbed, and blunt fingers to handle ſmall needles, and ſuch ſmall particles. Of this (which nature is capable of receiving a remedy) I have offered a touch of ſupply already, and ſhall further proſecute it in the following diſcourſe. And no man will deſpair of a fair progreſs in it, when he ſhall ſee all imaginable formations of ſyllables and words reducible to a few heads, in a facile and obvious order, and in a brief model, at one view, as in my following deſign; eſpecially when the ſtuds or nails were engrafted in our childhood, as is the alphabet generally to all that know letters. And when memory is at the worſt, in decay, we remember thoſe younger days better than the laſt hour that paſt. And the ſmalleſt ſyllable may ſometimes, in ſome language, ſignify the biggeſt of creatures. And fancy is as ſpeedy at her work, as any ſpider, to tie the ſmalleſt particle to a thread long enough to make a clue for all the folds of any labyrinth. And it is a great help to a decaying memory, if we frequently review our firſt impreſſions in any art, knowledge, or experience. And theſe will be the beſt topics, upon which we ſhould hang all our later memoranda. It is as the rivetting and better faſtening of the boxes and pegs in the ſhop and warehouſe.

6. IT is a great help to memory, if we accuſtom ourſelves to ſearch every thing inquiſitively, as if we would find out the moſt immediate individuation, and all circumſtances. My mother (after eighty years of age) was very famous for an incredible memory. Many would reſort to her, to enquire of old matters; but that was a kind of deluſion, ſince all of us do remember the affairs of our childhood beſt, but yet to me it was very ſtrange, that ſhe ſhould ſo exactly remember all things from her infancy. At all conferences I made ſecret trials many hundreds of times to ſtart up queſtions, which I gueſſed might never be diſcourſed by her to others, and ſhe would always immediately (and with ſome pleaſure to have it renewed) give me anſwer as freely and punctually, as if it were then before her eyes, although it ſeemed not to be revolved in her mind ſince her childhood, almoſt I might ſay infancy. But in her (and in others of extraordinary memory) I noted two things: 1. She would deſcribe every thing by perſon, place, order, poſture, motion, ſo as (if it related to any perſon) to deſcribe the perſon by figure, ſtature, voice, tone, and dialect in any humour, that might be ſingular or remarkable; and ſhe did always take deeper impreſſion, and more of the character of every perſon, than others commonly do. This may advertiſe to take in every circumſtance, as ſo many ways to ſecure the impreſſion, and to make a ſmall particle bear a bigger book. 2dly, I oft-times obſerved, that her account was generally according to the firſt information that ſhe received, becauſe that made an over-deep impreſſion. She would not eaſily yield to a ſecond fame, though ſometimes it might have more of truth. And this may advertiſe to practiſe a little the art of oblivion, which in due place may be more worth than memory.

7. AND hence I arrive to this paradox, that ſome to help their memories muſt begin (and make haſte) to forget. He that would form a block or ſtone into the image of a breathing man, muſt with his chiſſel cut away much of the ſuperfluous matter. No wonder that he cannot write legibly in ſuch table books, as are all filled with ſcrawlings. Let him wipe all off, and then engroſs what is fit to be recorded: and fancy will never fail to provide freſh tables with alacrity.

8. AND to this note I may rejoin, that when theſe combs are once put in order, you can never ſurcharge them with honey. The more we acquire, and the more often we viſit and employ memory, the firmer and ſtronger we find it. For example, if I began in geography, and (after the rules of longitudes and latitudes) ſhould remark ſome few of the grand partitions in *Africa*, *Aſia*, *Europe*, *America*, and the Polar Iſlands;

Iſlands; the more I advance in the knowledge of more provinces, and rivers, mountains, &c. the more I do faſten and ſettle my firſt rudiments, by entering my new ſtore; for to find the fit place, the mind hath ſtill ſome glance of view upon the whole, and particularly upon the recent ſupplies. And hence, by order and degrees, do ſome men become ſo learned to the admiration, or beyond the belief of others. And without thus much of the art of memory, no man ever became famous or ſound in any kind of uſeful learning. And ſome by this art have become univerſally learned in a far larger compaſs than the old reputed encyclopedy. Thus our *Selden*, *Grotius*, *Salmaſius*, and other learned men, by continuing their progreſs ſecured their poſſeſſions. And thus others, who do now addict to the more obliging and better inſtructive experimental philoſophy, though their matter and object ſeem as infinite, endleſs, and immenſe, as all God's works, and all the ſecret and wonderful curioſities of God's workmanſhip; if they ſhall accuſtom to rally their ſtudies in any order of nature, conceipt, or received method, their progreſs cannot burden, but aid their memory. Yet in this, the felicity of method, as it does more ingratiate the conceipt, may be the greater aid. For example, if a man has fifty or an hundred buſineſſes, or affairs, to a fair, and ſhall think to direct and ſecure himſelf by the tale or number, he will find himſelf much perplexed; but if he firſt reduceth theſe hundreds to ſo many heads of uſes (and all things in art and nature are primarily or ſubſequently for the uſe of man, and will anſwer *cui bono:* if the provender be for the horſe, the horſe ploughs, harrows, or carries goods, or the maſter, friends, &c.) and ſubdivides every uſe, with the remark of concernment, and the loſs that oblivion may cauſe, this will give fulleſt ſecurity for the main, and may be branched from few heads into ſuch clear order, as cannot be a burden. And now it is not the ſtring on the finger (which may be itſelf forgotten) but the places that muſt be viſited, and the perſons who muſt be enquired, which are the fitteſt objects for remarks.

WHEN I hear a ſervant famous for remembering innumerable mercate errands, I do not diſdain to enquire his topics, and remarks; and by enquiry I do oft-times make him more perfect in his own art, than he was before, or than he was aware of. And thus alſo by enquiring the method of every ſtudious perſon (for every intelligent hath a method) we revive, and confirm his memory, and lead him to make reflections upon his own art.

9. I HAVE ſaid it already, but will urge it as a freſh rule, that every man's ſtudies and buſineſſes are his moſt proper topics for memory; eſpecially being in their own elements, and employed according to their affections. And though many learned men do not diſcern in themſelves, or do not acknowledge any art of memory, yet this is their art. For example; if one ſhould make a very conſiderable diſcourſe of mathematics to a mathematician, of hiſtory to a hiſtorian, of chemiſtry or other experimental philoſophy to an experimental philoſopher, will not either of theſe in their ſeveral arts remember much more, than any perſon of the beſt memory that naturally can be, if deſtitute of all art, order, or elements, in any of theſe arts? And every of theſe is more apt to remember, by how much the more he hath his own art in perfect method. My uncle, Sir *William Pye* (ſometimes attorney in the court of wards) was famous for his memory: his lectures were in great eſtimation, and attended with great reſort: beſides his great ſkill in the confuſed maſs of our voluminous and cobweb laws, they that were moſt intimate with him do report, that he could name every *Engliſh* gentleman (yeoman too would ſome ſay) his anceſtors, pedigree, coat of arms, their chief manſions, and other revenues. Being ſometimes a follower of the judges in their circuits, pleading in all courts, and, at laſt, for many years employed in that office, which made ſearch into all eſtates; he was well feed to remember names, families,

milies, and eſtates, and the coat of arms was a farther remark to guard the name in firm cogniſance. As oft as I waited on him, he would diligently enquire, whence, through what towns, by what houſes of note I paſſed? and could better deſcribe my way than I, that had ſo lately viewed it. This was the practice of his memory.

10. IT is good to lay the ſtrongeſt foundations for a vaſt memory upon the ſenſes. It is one of lord *Bacon*'s rules, (and in all mnemonical writers recommended) *Deductio intellectualis ad ſenſibile.* I never loved fairs, being too weak to bear the crowds and joſtlings of men; yet I have ſometimes walked over great fairs, and entered many ſhops, with little welcome; for I had more of the mind of *Diogenes*, to ſee how many things I had no need of, than to buy. Now having a family, I have another ſecret end, to ſee how many accommodations may aſſiſt frugality. But my mind and chief aim was to practiſe my memory, in recounting all particulars in all places as I ſhould be demanded for trial. And in this kind our experimental inquiſitions have the advantage. When Mr. *Langley* was ſchoolmaſter of *Glouceſter*, I met him at *Kiderminſter*, where, with much affection, he led me along with him into all ſhops of ſuch artificers, as were not in *Glouceſter:* this gave me ſome initiation to attend to artifices and mechanics. And what memory can eaſily forget what the ſenſes have entertained? Yet the fancy will aſſiſt the impreſſion of ſenſe, and exalt to a deeper apprehenſion than outward ſenſe. I believe I felt a deeper wound, when I ſaw a man's ſkull trepaned, than he that ſuffered the ſurgeon's operation. To aſſiſt the practice of memory, I had once deviſed a hundred ſtories, as pertinent to that purpoſe as I could ſuggeſt, and had engaged captain *Taylor*'s brother to furniſh me with 100 comprehenſive pictures, that might introduce, or allure; but his affairs preſently altering, my notes were thrown into a chaos of waſte papers. Another may hereafter do it better. And *omne tulit punctum*, whoever hath built the treaſury of all arts, knowledge and languages, for an entertainment, as in an open ſummer-houſe, to refreſh us in our walks and paſtimes. *Tredeſcant*'s ſhop may be a model.

11. To diſcover how ſome impreſſion is deeper than from ſenſe, I can ſpecify, how conſcience hath roufed up the memory to do wonders. My youngeſt ſiſter (now living, as I hope, near *Cambridge*, the widow of that judicious *Cradock*, who was chaplain to his late majeſty) had in her very young years ſome blame from us for neglecting her books of devotion; but, as ſoon as her own ſpirit felt the check in deep earneſt, on a ſudden ſhe had all the Bible, and many other devotional books, ſo perfectly by heart, that ſhe was indeed a wonder. In that horror of her conſcience, every word of the ſcripture ſounded louder within her, than all the vaults at *Delphos*. It is beſt to receive the oracles of God with ſuch deep reverence, as if we entertained them for the oracles of God; thouſands of other ways may occur to engage the memory to a perpetual practice, and that does all the wonder. But now I muſt haſten,

III. To the third point in diſtinguiſhing memory; and that is not an eaſy matter, nor for every capacity.

1. FOR who can exactly diſtinguiſh, when the memory is naturally good, and when ſo only by induſtry, habit, practice and art? for we ſee, that the ſhepherd, who excels the doctor, had uſed, truſted, and employed his memory, more than the doctor. And ſome men have naturally ſuch a rational, and well proportioned fancy, as will receive, and lay up in this ſtorehouſe, in better order, and better for command, than others perchance, whoſe brains, or mind, have a firmer retentive faculty. And who will aſſure us, how much ſway the agent intellect, or fancy, doth bear over memory? or how much ſhare they have in the eſſence or ſubſtance of memory? If we attribute divinity to this agent intellect, or to memory, (as ſome of the acuteſt ſchool-wits, both Chriſtian and *Mahometan*, have done) what ſhall we ſay of the memory of dogs, and other

other animals, who (if we trace their ſagacity) may ſeem to challenge us for the better memory? I am ſure I have oft-times truſted more to my horſe and dog, than to myſelf, for the remembrance of my way. The kindneſs and unkindneſs of millions of perſons, with a remark of every individual favour, they will remember a long day, and put it to the teſt of their noſes, whether this be not the ſame perſon that did the injury or kindneſs; and I never ſaw them miſtaken in the reſult, though ſometimes they diſlike another the more, for ſome reſemblance or affinity in approach to the enemy. To be brief, I muſt call that a good natural memory, which is apt to reduce, and lay up all things in order, ready for all occaſions; and to deviſe images fit to make a laſting impreſſion.

2. THE practice that hath been hitherto encouraged, is fit and proper for buſineſs, and for ſcholars, to acquire eaſily and ſpeedily, and to retain firmly and indelibly. And ſince all men have not the ſame capacity, nor the ſame firmneſs of memory, *metiri ſe quemque ſuo modulo ac pede verum eſt*; no man can damnify himſelf by this art, or by his frequent practice upon order and image, or impreſs. But let us keep ſome bounds in all the ſerious perambulations of our minds. He that hath no true reliſh of harmony, in muſic, verſe or proſe, may well betake to ſome other employment; (for what hath a blind man to do with colours?) but that man, who is not in ſome capacities accommodable to human ſociety, is degraded below the beaſts and dulleſt inanimates. It is a ſad ſoul, who, by this mother and nurſe of all diſciplines, may not be expert in ſome uſeful profeſſion. And this art (as thus far recommended) is ſerviceable in any condition. The natural aptneſs firſt mentioned becomes more apt by theſe practices.

3. THERE is a farther art of memory, or (it may be I ſhall be required to call it) a higher degree in the prompt uſe of the art of memory. For all this makes not an orator ready to repeat his adverſary's unexpected arguments, nor to enable to the performances of *Anthony Ravennas*, mentioned by *Sabellicus*; or of the *Corſic* youth admired by *Muretus*; or of *Terentius*, *Skenkelius*, and *Morley*, more lately. I anſwer, that theſe few rules regarded, and the memory made vigorous, by morning and evening examinations, and thoſe old inſtructions recorded by *Quintilian* reduced to practice, in thoſe two points of regular place and image, will enable for truer wonders, and more valuable than thoſe named in the late examples: of which kind of abilities lord *Bacon* ſpeaks contemptibly in his Advancement of Learning, both in *Engliſh* and *Latin*, l. 5. c 5. And how can we juſtify ſo much waſte of time, to the only purpoſe of raiſing wonder? And what a trifle it is, to repeat words, alphabets, and ſyllables, *in infinitum*, if compared to that which our famous lawyers do daily perform before our eyes, even when they do not ſo much as diſcern, that their memory is aſſiſted with any art, but only by practice? Generally all Mr. *Buſt*'s ſcholars, that were of the higher forms in *Eton*, (and ſo I believe it was in other chief ſchools) could almoſt at a glance of the eye learn about a ſcore of *Virgil*'s verſes, or a larger portion of *Cicero*'s orations. And for the interludes of *Chriſtmas*, without intermiſſion of our daily exerciſes, many did learn volumes for the ſtage, in very few days. Myſelf, who had then no other ſenſe of art, than in the foregoing clauſe I declared, nor could boaſt of any peculiar verbal memory, did, in a few days, learn every line that is put in the mouth of *Æneas* by *Virgil*, in all his Æneids; and acted it ſeveral times before Sir *H. Wotton*. And I embrace this occaſion to applaud action, as a peculiar help to enliven and ſtrengthen memory: and hence, from experience, I can anſwer fully, that ſo much of theſe funambulary tricks of memory (as lord *Bacon* calls it) as may be of any commendable uſe, may eaſily, and by theſe two rules, be learned.

IN the laſt place I muſt relate, how Mr. *Hartlib*, having received ſuch of my eſſays upon the art of memory, ſent me his whole ſtore of mnemonical books, and, in a large letter, gave account of Mr. *Morley*'s very incredible performances. In following letters, I preſſed him to all particulars concerning *Morley*, as far as he could give me any anſwer; only he told me of a ſcroll of parchment, which he bought in *Duck-lane*, that it was *Morley*'s, but ſo unintelligible to all mortals, that he had caſt it amongſt his waſte papers. For a view of this ſcroll, I ſolicited ſome weeks, or months, before he could be at leiſure to find it out. As ſoon as he ſent it, at firſt caſt of my eye, I ſaw it was a very coſtly and elaborate model; containing between 40 and 50 feet length in parchment, engroſſed in a beautiful hand, ſubdivided and glued into five rolls of differing importance, viewed, examined, and approved, by the teſtimony and ſubſcription of Dr. *Thomas Goade*, a very ſober and acute perſon, and with royal countenance of higheſt applauſe, recommended to all ſchools, as Mr. *Hartlib* farther ſignified. Dr. *Goade*'s teſtimony imported, that he underſtood the accommodableneſs of *Morley*'s contrivances. And Dr. *Goade* was himſelf famous for many literary peculiarities. And, by peruſal, I ſaw how to interpret his contrivances, titles, remarks and defacements, at leaſt by gueſs, and to mine own ſatisfaction. And now it is time I ſhould acquaint you, how much farther I have advanced. Being encouraged, and frequently preſſed on, by the importunity of Mr. *Brereton*, to explain thoſe rolls, and to proſecute that argument, I determined and proceeded as followeth.

1. I INTEND, God willing, to leave thoſe rolls, and all the mnemonical books, and other accounts of that art (which Mr. *Hartlib* ſent me) in *Greſham* college, for the uſe of the Royal Society.

2. THE books (as I take it) are all out of print, and the beſt of them never were printed for common uſe; but, being publiſhed by the chief maſters of the art, were by characters ſo intricated, that the maſters might not loſe the gain by the common ſale of them; the beſt of them is ſo anonymous, that Mr. *Hartlib* could not tell the author, or the publiſher. I would part in preſent with any of the books to be publiſhed, which by the annexed keys may eaſily be done by any academical corrector. But for me to make collections, or new methods of the ſame thing; it were but *actum agere*, and the world is too full of ſuch folly. Yet I ſee great cauſe to wiſh, that in all univerſities there were profeſſed and able teachers of the art of memory; as there ought alſo to be ſuch as did well teach the arts of rhetoric, oratory, action, as did *Roſcius* and *Æſop*. What I have ſcribbled in theſe letters, is aloof or apart for the moſt part from what I find in the books of art. And I ſee three or four books of memory are already abroad in *Engliſh*, perchance with ſmall applauſe, and to little behoof.

3. I HAVE depoſited *Morley*'s rolls for a time in Mr. *Brereton*'s cuſtody, and Mr. *Hartlib*'s accounts of it; to this end, that he may enquire, whether he can find any perſons that will undertake the explication.

4. I HAVE, in haſty ſcribbles, made offer at ſome explication; and this alſo I have debarred from the view of others, upon the engagement of Mr. *Brereton*'s word, which I know he does highly value. This I leave in his cuſtody, and yet bind from others eyes, that if another interpreter undertakes it, it may be compared, how far in our gueſſes we do agree.

5. HEARING by Mr. *Hartlib*, that *Morley* had a ſecret key, or more portable breviary, for the uſe of his larger contrivances, which was deplored by Mr. *Hartlib*, as the main myſtery, and irreparably loſt, I have exemplified, how thoſe contrivances may be abbreviated into ſmall manuals, and for more eaſy practice.

6. SINCE

6. SINCE practice does all the wonder, and is all the difficulty; to eaſe the burden of practice, and to inſinuate the art and habit unawares, I have deviſed a mnemonical character (of which I formerly acquainted the honourable Mr. *Oldenburg*, and other noble friends) by the uſe of which character only, as for cryptography, one may ſoon get a facility in ranging all imaginable formations of letters, ſyllables and words, ſo as the memory, *tanquam uno intuitu aut nutu oculorum*, may, without labour, view and receive them, in whatſoever poſſible form or order, fancy or occaſion may ſuggeſt, alter, or rank them.

7. I EXEMPLIFY, how the uſe of that peculiar cryptography does perform lord *Bacon*'s deſign, touching helps for the intellectual powers; and may, by an immediate tranſition with the ſame, or like operation, ſerve for an univerſal character.

8. I URGE, and ſhew, how by the ſame proceſs the ſpirit is enabled for a promptneſs in the acquiſition of languages: in which operations nevertheleſs any man may decline the tumbling tricks of the mind and memory, reproached by lord *Verulam*, or take them in his way as he pleaſeth.

To reſume the *pinners rows*, all the operations is a trifle; neither have I any zeal for the character, as cryptographal, or univerſal; or yet for the mnemonical aid, otherwiſe than complicately, ſo as the one may ſuborn aid to the other, and both may invigorate the activity of the mind to a very uſeful promptneſs. Neither ſhould I ſpecify all the uſes or powers of it, but in due places: for if I ſhould open my utmoſt aim, no man will look upon it as feaſible, but gueſs it to be *obſcurum per obſcurius*, and the help to be the greater burden. And ſo it will be indeed, if the faculties of the mind be not raiſed, ſtrengthened, and habituated to it, by a very gentle and orderly proceſs of degrees.

Honourable SIR, From *Yeovell*, *Oct.* 2, 1663.

HAVING tired you with long congratulations, and myſelf alſo with that and other ſcribbles on *Monday* laſt, I had thoughts of giving you more reſt at this time. But on *Tueſday* morning I drank your health in a doſe of eſſence of balſam, by which I was inſpired with ſtrength to undergo your commands for mnemonicals: and when you have ſeen what is here drawn, and what lies in other hands waiting for a few hours of your leiſure, I hope you will rather ſay, I have done too much and ſuperabundantly, than too little and defectively. This is in my heart my own judgment upon the matter.

BUT I cannot deviſe, how you ſhould peruſe my ſcribbles, for I have neither ſtrength nor leiſure either to compoſe or tranſcribe; and ſince I reviewed my haſty draught, I find ſo defective expreſſions, as are uncapable of any other help than your pardon. If this were of ſo much worth, I would intreat, that the amanuenſis would prepare it fitter for your eye or ear before you afflict yourſelf about it; and then if you ſhould think fit to commute theſe ſheets for ſome writings, which are now in the hand of my honoured friend Mr. *Evelyn*, theſe letters and thoſe writings will mutually aſſiſt for the explication of each other to you both. And I humbly deſire, that neither may be much ſpread abroad, till they have received the laſt hand, and the ſeaſon be ripe and fit: and beſides (in theſe) you will find ſome domeſtical ſtories, though to honeſt purpoſe. I reſign all to your prudence and conduct.

BUT you may interrogate, why and how I can give ſuch full applauſe (as in the beginning of thoſe ſheets I do) to *Quintilian*, and others of the ancients; and yet offer for the public more of theſe writings, either thoſe I have in my cuſtody, or mine own. To this I may anſwer, that libraries had long ago been empty, if that rule had been obliging, and in force; and I doubt we ſhall never leave off the rank humour of ad-

ding even to the oracles of God, till the creſcent ſword makes us more humble, and more reaſonable. But my better anſwer is, that modern maſters in the modern expreſſions do beſt agree with the modern times. And alſo I conſider, that there was more care and pretence to the art of memory in former days (as appears by the remarks, ornaments, rubrics in manuſcript, and by the mnemonical caſes fitted for arts) but there is much more of the art itſelf (than we ſeem to be aware of) in uſe in theſe days, as appears by our progreſs in all kinds of literature. For though he takes no notice of it, yet every linguiſt, before he can be perfect in many languages, gets in mind ſuch topics, as are moſt proper for the acquiſition of languages, by which he does afterwards get more of like kind with ſuch facility, that he advanceth with more eaſe and ſpeed; and in a ſerious purſuit of other deeper knowledge (upon the by, and with imperceptible diverſion) gets more languages daily.

HOWEVER, there is great force in this, *Qui monet ut facias, &c.* For every man, that reads a book himſelf, finds himſelf in ſome degree apt to turn to the page where he found novelty and excellence, or diſguſt, and ſome (by a ſmall ray of their ſpirit) will turn with the finger to the place, *tanquam aliud agendo*, whilſt their more ſerious thoughts are otherwiſe employed. But, if upon advertiſement, they fix and accuſtom the memory, to take the firſt impreſſion of the title, chapters, ſections, method, and paragraphs, and peculiar remarks of pages, by this precaution and habit, they may find their memory much more vivid and firm.

BUT to prevent in you, and Mr. *Evelyn*, and other friends, ſuch great expectations, as do ſoil my ſpirit, and cloud my endeavours, I do often inculcate, how ſlight the means is. For example, it may ſeem incredible, or ridiculous, to engage the memory in a prompt uſe of one hundred and ſix thouſand diſtinct places for alphabets, ſyllables, and words; but in practice it will be but two eaſy operations, which a young factor will ſuddenly catch up in an hour or two, being aſſiſted by a common ſlight of the eaſieſt part of arithmetic, the characters being reduced (by coloured lines of partition) to a brief view of one page in 4to. For twenty times twenty makes four hundred: and (in the ſame manner of operation) four hundred times four hundred makes a hundred and ſixty thouſand. So like it is to the making and rowing of pins: he that can make and row one paper, finds no other work or difficulty for as many characters as he pleaſeth. And twenty letters may ſuffice for an alphabet. Or if, for curioſity, he would practiſe upon *Morley*'s alphabet, which (to take in the ſounds of all the languages) he made thirty, by multiplying thirty times thirty, it comes to the ſame manner of operation.

SIR, *Comenius*, to expedite pedagogy and didactics, wrote a large folio, which he ſent me, and hath ſince added many more volumes: but I thought it better to adhere to my old rules, than to begin with this folio. I muſt not commit the like error; if a very few rules, and a ſheet or two exemplified, does not ſerve this turn, I ſhall have nothing to ſay. For the world is already oppreſſed with didactical books. It may be you have heard of one *Hercules*, who of late years in ſome parts of *Germany* taught all ſorts of people, men, clowns, and plough-boys, all the learned and devout languages, in few weeks, by practiſing their memory upon a roll, which he turned by ſcrews upon a table, for which he was arraigned as a magician. If I undertook pedantry, it ſhould be my ambition to prefer ſuch brevity before huge volumes. Example is the beſt teacher; and performance a ſufficient proof and demonſtration, as you have thoroughly taught us in your excellent philoſophy.

SIR, I cannot be very well pleaſed with any of theſe firſt draughts, being haſty work, (and that man muſt be very fantaſtical, who gives not ſome precedence to his ſecond thoughts and riper judgment, before his firſt conceits.) But I am ſo much unſatisfied

and

and diſpleaſed with the third ſheet on the top remarked 3, that if in the whole there be any thing worthy a review, I muſt humbly crave the favour for the return of that ſheet for a chaſtiſement. I hope to give a clearer diſtinction both of natural memory from artificial, and of the art, which is the treaſury of all arts and ſciences from that which pretends to the wonder. Let me put a note of reduplication upon that which you do well know: you know ſome, that are ſo perfect in many languages, that they would bluſh to be told of any phraſe, idiom, or almoſt of any authentical word (in any of thoſe languages) to them unknown; the ſame perſons to be in a like degree prompt in all hiſtory and geography, and many other arts, ſciences, and voluminous writings, as are ſome, that have the truſt of great libraries; no expreſſion poetical, or rhetorical, no notion ſeems new or ſtrange to them: I ſay of ſuch memories, which muſt have more of art, induſtry, and practice, than of nature, and yet much alſo of an inquiſitive reaſon, of an impreſſive conceit, and of a ſerene and firm mind; that they are highly to be preferred before thoſe quick returns of memory, which are ſo much admired. For what is it to tire all the company with repetitions of words and ſentences (if it ſhould hold out for ſome hours, days, or weeks) in compariſon of this art, which heaps up, digeſts, and firmly retains whole libraries? In my poor deſigns, I have offered aids of both kinds, but chiefly to the firſt, and collaterally to the ſecond, as far as any man ſhall pleaſe to concern himſelf in it.

BUT, Sir, all this is but a kind of pedantry, and very much below your affairs. God willing, in my next Eſſays, I ſhall endeavour to ſerve you in your more noble and public engagements. For though no man can make leſs luſtrous proof of it, yet I aſſume the confidence to aver it, that no man living can more deeply and more ſincerely honour you than,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

JOHN BEALE.

Honourable Sir, *Oct.* 17, 1663.

I AM now under your commands for animadverſions: but I muſt firſt interrogate. Can your commands juſtify any ſuch attempt? Or will you bid a man demoliſh temples, and deface ſhrines and monuments? To ſay truth, you may ſafely bid envy try her teeth upon ſuch marbles and diamonds. For they came from the heart of the beſt rock; the ſubſtance is all divine, and the foundation divinity itſelf: and he that ſhall aſſault a perſon for vindicating God's glorious attributes, and the intereſt of mankind, (and with ſo much luſtre and ſolidity) he muſt be guilty of theomachy, and renounce humanity.

SIR, the deepeſt of the theologues ſay, that we want the ſame hand and the very ſame method for the reſtoration of theology; and we cannot ſpare your labours for philoſophy, till our ſafe paſſage for heaven be ſecured. And ſurely we had never ſo far divided, and daſhed againſt each other upon pretences of purer Chriſtianity, or of holy truth, if we had adhered conſtantly to that theology, which is operative, practical, and experimental, according to the ſafe and liquid rule of ſhewing our faith by our works. Now by our lofty flight in logical or rather ſophiſtical terms, and ſchool-notions, we have loſt the foundation, and cannot agree where to find the old plain and Chriſtian faith, which was heretofore always pregnant of good manners. Our king *James* had the applauſe of learned *Caſaubon*, and other judicious reformers for this ſound ſentence, *Pauca illa ſunt, quæ abſolute neceſſaria ſunt ad ſalutem, & fere ex æquo omnibus probantur, qui ſe Chriſtianos dici poſtulant.* We proteſtants do ſay the holy ſcriptures

ſcriptures are full and clear; the *Romaniſts* (notwithſtanding all councils, ſynods, and ſchool-degrees) give us comfort in our implicit faith and blind obedience. And as well the prophets of old, *Micah* vi. 6, *&c.* as the apoſtles, *Heb.* viii. 8. have abbreviated for us in very fair and legible characters, which are alſo engraven in us: yet like *Jacob*'s ſons we fall out on the way, till by this breach we do at laſt loſe our way in ſad earneſt. Sir, you are by divine endowments conſecrated a chief in that prieſthood, which is bound to offer ſacrifices to heal theſe tranſgreſſions. And thoſe great diſcoveries, which God in late ages hath made, not only by great effuſions of beams and light of art and nature, but alſo of that holy light of the grace of reconciliation, may give us many grounds of good hope, that God makes haſte to finiſh ſome great work in a more glorious diſplay of ſo much of his luſtre, as is fit for this world. In which notion I indulge no more, than was modeſtly undertaken by *Bodine* ſome years ago in Meth Hiſt. c. 7. *Confutatio eorum, qui quatuor Monarchias aureaque ſæcula ſtatuunt*, where he ſhews, that it is we and our poſterity that are of the golden age.

BUT you expect I ſhould deſcend to particulars, and I muſt remember that I am under the authority of your commands, which puts me to the ſtreſs of ſuggeſting how calumny may frame ſome argument againſt you.

FIRST then, page 59. though you ſpeak very warily and timorouſly of the immenſe perfection, and therein equality of the divine attributes, and our φιλαυτία hath a very juſt check, I can move in behalf of ſome tender or curious ſpirits, that you would vouchſafe to ſecure that paragraph with a marginal note, as a double expreſs, that you acknowledge God's mercy to be his great and moſt obliging attribute, not only as our neareſt concernment in the great myſtery of the goſpel, but as extended in chief over all God's works, which were created all very good, but by our tranſgreſſion were rendered under a curſe. For you may juſtly urge, that as our revolts and tranſgreſſions were the ſad occaſion of the emergencies and ſupereminences of the attribute of mercy; ſo by our redemption and reſtoration, we are ſingularly bound to offer the ſacrifices which are due to God by the claim of all his other attributes, and particularly for his framing, creating, and governing the world, and all parts of it in ſuch perfect harmony. For the works of creation are not eclipſed and darkened, but illuſtrated by the reſtoration, *&c.* In this caution you may decline ſome endleſs diſputes, which ſharp men do daily raiſe, how the attributes are diſtinguiſhed, which are eſſential, and wherein the prerogative, *&c.* In which the greateſt wits may ſooner loſe themſelves, than clear all points to others; and a wiſe man ſaid truly, that the *Jewiſh* ſuperſtition at the name of God was leſs faulty than our preſumption upon the nature and attributes of God.

SECONDLY, *ad pag.* 62. It is beſt that you do not (ſince you need not) engage yourſelf expreſsly againſt the intepretation of *Socinus*. And your margin may add, that however the interpretation of *Socinus* may ſeem ſpecious and coherent to his principles, yet the other ſenſe is more catholicly received, and very proper for the apoſtolical inference, that the *Gentiles* might ſee ſo much of God in the large volumes of Creation and Frame of the World, as might oblige them to more unblameable converſation; and the ſin of idolatry there reprehended, verſe 23, as the leading tranſgreſſion, was not peculiar to that age, but was the ſin of the old world. And it is not contrary to the remarks of *Socinus*, that the ſame ſcriptures ſhould ſometimes have a depth and latitude comprehenſively reflecting both upon the creation and the goſpel.

SIR, I muſt not trouble you with all the reaſons of theſe overtures, but I find it ſafer (and fitter for the diſpatch of theſe Eſſays) to call for experimental theology, than to engage in any heats againſt *Socinus*. For though he never had the credit to raiſe a national

national church, as *Luther* and *Calvin* have done, yet all parties (as well *Romaniſts* as our *Engliſh* hierarchy, or others, the deepeſt of them) do all confeſs him to be the acuteſt, the ſmootheſt, and yet the moſt dangerous of their adverſaries: and as a mere virtuoſo, he hath raiſed in all ingenuous perſons that read him, a greater admiration than either of thoſe leaders, or than *Eraſmus*, who was indeed greater than both. And *H. Grotius*, and other his ſtrongeſt adverſaries, have ſo often rendered up their cudgels to him, that we may fear his growth to a great name in the next age, and eſpecially by the weakneſs of moſt of his adverſaries, who do commonly undertake him before they have wit enough to underſtand him. The *Romaniſts* do think, that all other their adverſaries are at their retreat, and fading flowers, as *Balzac* called them. And we all confeſs, that no man ever diſputed better againſt *Jews*, *Mahometans*, and *Romaniſts*, nor better defended the authority of ſcriptures. And though he challengeth all mortals at the ſingle rapier of holy ſcriptures, yet no man enters the liſts againſt him, but with ſome advantage of cloak and rapier, fire and thunder on his ſide. And I fear he makes too full proof by viſible examples, that our native metaphyſics will not convince all human nature of the Godhead (for all are not ſo deeply reaſonable) without the help of divine revelation, or ſome parental tradition, which hath a reverend and obliging force, or right to awaken all human regards. But I doubt alſo, that his mind is not in this argument fully opened by himſelf, or underſtood by others: for ſuch as write his life do deplore the loſs of his plea againſt atheiſts, which was by himſelf eſteemed the moſt elaborate of his works, and his maſter piece. There we might have ſeen what he eſteemed the fitteſt arguments againſt ſuch as had no belief of any revelation, as divinely authentical.

SIR, in this I commend your prudence, that you keep the garb that is proper for a perſon of honour, and leave us choleric men of the lower region to anſwer to challenges, and to fight in duels. And by this emptineſs you will ſee, that if I could have darted any objections againſt you, I ſhould not have ſpared you. And this I dare doom, that whoever proſecutes this taſk, gets no more credit by it than *Milton* got by his *Iconoclaſtes*. And therefore this is all you muſt expect from me for animadverſions. Of wild notes and promiſcuous experiments, I am like to ſend you a great deal more than enough, of which the firſt exemplar may be medical, the reſt more extravagant, at random over the whole maſs of the creation.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEAL.

Honourable Sir, *Yeovell, Nov.* 2, 1693.

I SEEM for a while to owe you a trouble once a fortnight, of which kind the annexed is a parcel.

BUT you may juſtly aſk me, what I mean by this? and whether any thing can be more trivial, or more vulgar than this? or whether any phyſician, or ſurgeon, cannot diſcover much better and nobler things than theſe?

TO all which I anſwer, that when I have explained my aim, I ſhall not be aſhamed to ſay, that the more vulgar the things are, the better and more uſeful they may be to the generality of people: and the vulgarity of theſe generalities do not exclude, but introduce the more received experiments of profeſſed ſurgeons and phyſicians: and, above all things, I would decline the affectation of telling wonders and rarities; for it is a temptation to ſtep beyond the juſt proportion of truth, and can ſignify no more than *penes authorem fit fides*. To diſcover the bottom of my thoughts, I muſt recollect to your memory the Beverovician induſtry, which compiled a volume of letters

ters or addreſſes in thoſe days to determine this queſtion, whether medical art, or other care, could add to the length of a man's days; which related then chiefly to the hot queſtions then on foot concerning predeſtination. All this volume brought forth nothing but daſhes of great wits. But, honourable Sir, if you, or any other perſon by your appointment, would engage and receive the addreſſes of honeſt and intelligent perſons, in the way of their experiments, ſelecting and expunging, as you ſaw needful, to avoid impertinencies and repetitions, (to which freedom I would not only allow from my heart, but entreat your ſpunge) this might ſoon ariſe to a far more profitable diſcourſe, than the cavils about predeſtination; though that be called theology, this a mere regimen of health.

SIR, I owe you another kind of thanks, for the ſleep medicine; but firſt I would be diſcharged of this poor mite, of which kind I ſent you two ſheets a fortnight ago, herewith two more ſheets, and I think one ſheet more will exhauſt my ſmall ſtock of vulgarities: and theſe bearing the title of experiments, muſt bear ſome ſhape of his addreſs, who engageth his fidelity. The meſſenger makes me abrupt, but always,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt faithful ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Experiments moſt part medical, or chirurgical.

1. ABOUT thirty years ago, *Thomas Day* (an honeſt apothecary of *Cambridge*) aſſured me, that a patient then came to Mr. *Eade*, practitioner then in phyſic there, and told him that his blood was white. To try the truth, Mr. *Eade*, or *Thomas Day*, opened a vein in his arm, and the blood, as it ran from the vein, had a pallid reddiſhneſs; but on the floor, and in the diſh, was as white as milk. Mr. *Eade* gueſſed, by that and other circumſtances, that if he had not then uſed remedies, he had proved a leper.

2. SIR *R. P.* was there my pupil, and had moſt horrid fits of hypochondriacal, and almoſt epileptical paſſions, holding him many hours together; his ſenſes alienated, his mouth ſpeechleſs, and a ſtrange murmur in his bowels, which ſome thought to ſignify obſeſſion. Mr. *Eade* propoſed a cupping-glaſs, and ſcarification on the hinder part, or over it, of the outſide of his thigh. Dr. *Gliſſon*, and all other phyſicians, deſpiſed, and indeed derided that propoſal. I ſpent a good ſtock of money in the way of Dr. *Gliſſon*, and others, with no viſible benefit; for the fits increaſed in violence and durance: at laſt, in a fit, I tried the cupping-glaſs, and found the benefit immediately, and by taking off the glaſs the raging fit returned. After ſome proofs in this kind, the place was ſcarified, and a drawing plaiſter applied. And thus, by carrying a glaſs in my pocket, to apply it as oft as the fit took him, the malady was in few weeks cured.

3. MR. *Thomas Mountague*, (now ſchool-maſter of *Eton*) when about twenty-one or twenty-two years old, being then ſtudious, (yet of a very active body, and very ſober, and almoſt beyond example of ſpare diet) was taken with an extreme gout in his great toe. Dr. *Nic*, of *Cambridge*, directed he ſhould open a vein in his toe, by which he was cured totally, as he told me ten years after. Quere.

4. WHEN I was a child I ſtead frogs in ſport, to ſee what ſhift they would make when ſtead. By miſtake, as I practiſed on a toad, I found his throat ſwelled, and the duſky ſpots; and thereupon did caſt him out of my hands: I was not bitten, but ſoon after both my hands and handwriſts were covered with a ſcab; I could not then

gueſs

gueſs what elſe might be the cauſe: I was cured by contuſed plantain leaves, the oil of it.

5. (AT *Eton* I threw many frogs into the *Thames*, to ſee how far they could ſwim. Some did reach to cloate-leaves there growing upon the ſhallow water, and were there ſaved; others were drowned, as we could well obſerve. Yet I have ſeen other frogs, in other places, live under water, and engender there ſo, as to ſtick together faſtened, as dogs when lined to bitches, ſo as not ſuddenly to part at a blow with a ſtaff.)

6. ABOUT the beginning of theſe civil wars, I was overwhelmed in melancholy and grief, to ſee the public confuſions and ruins, (my neareſt alliances and deareſt friends being engaged, and many loſt on both ſides.) This broke out into the blind piles, ſtoppage of my ſtomach, hypochondriacal torments, jaundices: but nothing did more moleſt me than a tetter, which did ſeize on the back of my hand, ſometimes both hands, ſometimes both handwriſts; alſo far upon my arms, and ſeeming to have devoured the epidermis. I ſubmitted punctually to the advice of many intimate and friendly doctors, for inward and outward applications. I changed air and diet, from *Herefordſhire* (my native country) to *Shropſhire*, and back again to *Herefordſhire*. Notwithſtanding all cleanſings and care, the tetter reproached me and my phyſicians more than ſeven years: in all which time, this ugly tetter was a dial to tell me what food, drink, air, diet or exerciſe, was more kind than other to me; and what medicine, inward or outward, had moſt effect: of which I will here give a brief account of three.

7. A GOOD gentlewoman promiſed me all things from the oil of wheat. Thus it was drawn: the blackſmith heats his anvil red hot, drops the wheat on, which burns to a coal, and the moiſture wiped off is the oil as black as ink. At firſt touch of this oil, I found it burn like a fire coal; but I would be *Scævola*, and laid it all over the back of my right hand; and immediately my torments were as great as thoſe of *Scævola*. It did put me in mind to ſuſpect the liquor of wheat to be more outrageous than that of jucca, yet *Mars* might have a ſtroke in the injury. The ſwelling haſtened up my arm and ſhoulder, the kernels under my arm-pits and my breaſt became very ſore, ſwelled, and inflamed, till it grew to an outrageous fever. A ſkilful doctor came ſpeedily, and opened a vein, and by other lenitives, under God, cured me. At the beginning of a tetter this oil may be applied, and will burn out the tetter, and leave a fire-mark behind: but when the tetter is ſpread, and the humour reſorts and abounds, and the epidermics deeply pierced, this medicine is too violent.

8. To omit my trial of pigeon-dung, verjuice, vitriols, mercuries, and thouſands of others; my ſecond remark is of a healing ſpring, very famous for curing many frets, ulcers, impoſthumes, and had lately done a greater cure upon a poor man's rotted legs, than our phyſicians or ſurgeons could do. This water I tried often, and by warming it in my mouth (by which in the morning it was mingled with faſting ſpittle) I did let it fall warm upon the tetter. It would in a moment viſibly cloſe up the raw fleſh, gathering a thin ſkin over it, as ſpeedily as milk gathers a ſkin upon the fire. And as the ſkin did ſpread all over the tetter, a moiſture would aſcend in round drops through large pores, which being wiped off and more water poured on, at the ſecond or third time the pores were alſo healed up. And this courſe I took as often as I went to other tables, to hide the ulcer from giving offence. But this was falſe daubery, and within a day or two I was conſtrained to make ſatisfaction.

9. THIS ſeemed to note, that the cure muſt begin within doors; and ſome from great experience extolled betony, ſome fumiterry, for the purgers of blood or brain from melancholy; ſome elder, as the beſt calmer of hot inflammations and angry humours. I tried all, and with long conſtancy, but without ſucceſs. What cured

me I cannot confidently affirm; but an intelligent gentleman did so highly extol sanicle, with so many proofs of his own and other mens experience, that by the infusion of it in drink, it would heal all ulcers within and without, that I used it, and found the tetter much abated; and casually reading *in horto sanitatis*, that the gum of plum-tree, dissolved in vinegar, would heal tetters, I tried it, and found this benefit, that it would cover the sore as with a glass, so that I could wear a glove. Soon after it came also in my mind to drain out the moisture with vine-leaves, a day or two, and then to apply the gum, and with the use of infaced sanicle in the same time I was cured. Upon abuse of diet I have had some red spots, giving me, many times since, warning to be careful. And in want of vine-leaves had (but with some inflammation) a like benefit from raisins cut and spread over the sore.

10. BUT every year or second year since, I am in summer visited with some hot inflammation, which begins in one or both my legs, about the small. And water-gruel, in which the buds, inward rind, or some part of elder, is decocted, is my best remedy.

11. IN these and other maladies I have tried the operations of many vegetables in pottages, and in drink, which being a little warmed would draw forth the spirits of the vegetables. But for cordials, can prefer no leaf before balm (which is also highly recommended by doctor *Smith* of *Shrewsbury*) nor any blossom before gilliflowers and cowslips. And for lenitives, and longevity, I prefer elder. I wish some trial were made in a cup of balm ale, how agreeable it would be to the person who finds an offence at honey: because balm hath been always esteemed the chief of honey-flowers, best beloved and most friendly to bees.

12. DR. *Sheafe* (now arch-deacon of *Wells*) had a wound in his heel by an arrow: for which (being my chamber-fellow at *Eton*) he suffered (and I in my heart) all the horrors of surgery, for more than a year. At last there was no hope, but his leg must be cut off. A good woman of *Windsor* desired leave to make one trial of her salve. This salve so fermented the wound, that it wrought out some yarn of the stocking, which the forked arrow carried thither; and soon after all was healed. I saw the flesh so often eaten away, to no other purpose but to search the bottom, and to his horrid torture, that it gave me a better esteem of a good salve, than of a famous surgeon; for he had the advice and handling of the best surgeons that were then of note.

13. THAT the flesh of some persons is much more apt to heal, than of others, I well know: and do thence also conceive, that inward applications may conduce far towards the healing of an outward wound: as burstness or rupture is healed by the powder of consounds, and dislocations in the head and bones by osteocolla.

14. WHEN I was a child, I noted that the clawings and deep bitings of a parrot (which did it in love and fondness) were suddenly healed, truly to my great wonder; but a ferret, in a high rage, and swelling about the head like a serpent, bit the very end of my finger, which presently wrought upon my body, as if it had been the biting of a serpent; which begat in me a sore wound, and long sickness.

15. IN turning the key, the middle joint of my middle finger rased on a nail in the lock. It did scarce bleed, and was of no depth, yet it swelled up my arm, till it laid me in a violent burning fever above a fortnight. Whether the rust of the nail, or the ill temper of my body, was more obnoxious, I cannot say: but a small spark may fire a tinder-box.

16. A LADY of my acquaintance, did frequently cure her great pains of her teeth by tying a leaf of water-pepper, or arse-smart, about her little finger, till it raised a blister there, which she healed with a leaf of woodbind; if that were not to be had, ale-hoof, or other good medicine for burning, healed it. The leaf should be tied between the first and second joint of the finger.

17. WHEN

17. WHEN a ſharp defluxion hath endangered the ſight of the eye, I have ſeen it oftentimes ſuddenly diverted by raiſing a bliſter in the pit of the neck behind, and drawing off the moiſture that way.

18. A VINE-LEAF, or a leaf of a tender young colewort, have (both of them) a ſtrong faculty of drawing; and I have ſeen many great cures of divers kinds done by their ſeaſonable applications.

19. OFT-TIMES, when I have felt my vitals in danger of ſome great diſeaſe breeding within me, I have rubbed off the ſkin on the back of my hands, hand-wriſts, or ſmall of my legs; I have diſcuſſed or drawn off the more horrid malady, freed my ſpirits, and then, after I have drawn off ſome tart moiſture, I have ſafely healed the raſed and fretted part again.

20. A GENTLEWOMAN (a near friend of mine) had a very great and dangerous wen on the ſide of her neck, which with haſty growth deformed her, and diſcouraged her phyſicians and ſurgeons, who applied for many months divers medicines of beſt account. I ſent to Mr. *Hartlib* for advice, and my good friend Dr. *F. Cl.* directed, that ſhe ſhould, for ſome time, hold and preſs hard on the wen the hand of a dead man, who died ſome violent death. She obſerved it punctually, and ſhe ſaid, the coldneſs of the hand cooled her heart, and the wen preſently withered, and ſhrunk ſo ſmall, that it is not viſible, nor much bigger than a nut kernel.

21. WILLIAM earl of *Northampton*, grandfather to this preſent earl, chid his cook for his ſcabby hands, as he called it; for his hands were all covered with warts, very great and ugly. The cook anſwered, that he could get nothing that would drive away his warts. The earl bade him rub them with a dead man's hand, and he would warrant the cure. Soon after the earl died ſuddenly: and then the cook, remembering his lord's words, whilſt he watched the corpſe, ſtroked all his warts with the dead hand, and ſoon found his lord's warrant and word to be very good. This I received from my brother *T. B.* who was perſonally privy to the truth in all points.

22. WE find and feel, that colds, coughs, rheums, fevers, cholics, palſies, and other dangerous and mortal diſeaſes, are begotten by the violence of damps, winds, or other confuſing operations entering at the hand-wriſts, pit of the neck, codpiece, ſoles of the feet, head, *&c.* And theſe diſeaſes are ſometimes drawn off by fomentations and applications to theſe parts.

23. MR. *Harriſon* (the ſchoolmaſter of *Eton*) told me, that when the great plague was in *London*, in a tavern he fell down mortally ſick, and thinking it was the plague, he took as much as a walnut of *Venice*-treacle, and ſweating on it recovered. A fortnight or month after, he returns to the ſame tavern; the people all wonder to ſee him alive, and tell him, that when he fell ill, there was one in the houſe dead of the plague, which fell ill in the ſame manner as he did. This was no good news to Mr. *Harriſon*; and before he parted, he fell again, as formerly; and uſing the treacle, recovered again; but within a month fell into a violent and long laſting fever, which (as his phyſicians told him) he might have prevented, if, after the former fits, he had breathed a vein and purged.

24. DR. *Wedderburne* gave me this medical counſel (as we returned together into *England*) that I ſhould not be ſick before I was ſick, noting the puling ſpirits of ſome, and generally of ſcholars, who do always fancy themſelves to be ſick, or ſickly, and by fancy and frequent medicines do make themſelves ſick indeed. And I was not much guilty of it. For I never took vomit yet, nor ever took a purge, or opened a vein, till I fell into a burning fever in *Orleans*, by advice of Dr. *Du Cheſne*, being then thirty-three years old. But Sir *H. Wotton* ſaid, it was proverbially noted to be the *Engliſhman*'s folly, that he is the laſt that betakes to his couch, and the firſt that riſeth

up. And our covetous clowns do commonly caſt their lives away, to ſave charges: they will not be perſuaded to ſend for the phyſician, till it be too late. Yet we commonly find, that after the third or fourth day's rage of ſickneſs, the phyſician is put to an after-game, and ſeldom recovers ground by his ſlow methods and *Galenic* or more preſumptuous compoſitions.

25. As ſome fleſh is more apt to heal than other, ſo are ſome bodies more pliant or more compliable to medicine. And though I cannot commend judge *Rumſey*'s Provang for any but drunkards, gluttons, and ſuch monſters; yet if one ſhould ſurcharge or offend his ſtomach (which no virtuous perſon will often do) it is a felicity, and a kind of exerciſe of the body, to have a facility in diſcharging the ſtomach by vomit, which may provoke worſe diſeaſes. And the like of purgation by ſtool, urine, ſweat, perſpiration, exerciſe, *&c.*

26. AFTER long faſting, a moderate proportion of food hath ſurcharged my ſtomach, more than twice as much at an ordinary meal, and ſo is wine or ſtrong drink very heady in a faſting ſtomach, or great thirſt.

27. WHEN phyſicians tell me, I muſt open a vein, or enter into a courſe of phyſic, then I fall to elder pottage in the morning, and a ſpare diet, and find this my ſureſt phyſic.

28. FROM my childhood I have a corn on the inſide of my little toe, which torments me and cripples me more than ſome are tormented with their gout. It is ſoft, and hath a black eye, and the touch of the ſhoe or of any artiſt's hand that cuts it, yea, the unavoidable compreſſion of the next toe, gives me a deeper torment than any other inciſion. In all ſharp weather of heats, froſts or long rain, it is my almanack. I tried ſo many remedies, that I loſt all hope and belief, and feared ſome cancer or gangreen from it. About fifteen months ago, I bound to it a leaf of elder morning and evening for a month. This hath altered the nature of it, and reſtored me to my feet and legs better than ever I had from my childhood, notwithſtanding that the black eye remains, and muſt be cut ſometimes, *&c. &c.*

Experiments medicinal, chirurgical, &c. Nov. 2, 1663.

ABOUT twenty-ſeven years ago a gentleman of quality, in the prime and beauty of his youth, had a moſt afflicting ulcer on the back, and all about his hand, which for many years was obſtinate againſt all applications and medicines, and diſgraced him in all companies, (he being then in good luſtre amongſt the gentry and in the *Engliſh* court) and it was thought to be a tetter: as I ſat with him in private conference, he fell to his uſual rubbing; and the rage of the ulcer conſtrained him to break up the ſkin with his teeth in the very middle of his palm; and then examining the oriſice, he told me, he diſcovered a bright jewel there. We examined it, and found it a cryſtal as big as the nail of a man's hand; which being taken out, he was ſoon healed, and then could remember how he broke a *Venice* glaſs with his hand on a table, ſo long ago as his hand had been maimed; but it was a far diſtant part of his hand, that ſtruck the glaſs, but a piece being ſunk through the epidermis might eaſily, by the motion of joints and ſinews, remove the place. And he that notes the anatomical mechanics of the hand, will diſcern what miſchief a jewel would do in that place. Mr. *Butler* of *Cambridge* got much credit by his witty ſearch into ſuch circumſtantial accidents; and I have oft-times ſeen a chirurgeon do more good with his wit and hand, than with his plaiſter. And he that hath read *Vocerus de Lamiis & de præſtigiis*, will find ſtrange removals within the epidermis.

A CHI-

A CHIRURGEON of my acquaintance finding himſelf at loſs about the cure of an ulcer near the knee, by diligent ſearch found a ſmall pin there. Another time being in the ſame caſe about an impoſthume under the ſhort ribs, by a bold ſearch found a pin there alſo. They conceived the pin to come thither through the ſtomach, being ſwallowed by chance.

SIR *R. P.* falling down a narrow ſtairs bruiſed his back and breaſt, and immediately ſwelled inwardly, that his breath was ſtopped. I cauſed a vein in his arm to be opened, and preſently he recovered breath, and was afterwards cured by fit medicines. The help of phlebotomy in falls, bruiſes, and contuſions, and in deep percuſſions of the air, which beget violent fevers, pleuriſies, *&c.* is well known, but not ſo commonly or vulgarly publiſhed, but that I have known many lives loſt by the ignorance or wilful neglect of it; and as many lives loſt by unſeaſonable phlebotomy. But theſe extremities deſerve a public advertiſement.

I RODE in the company of a fat big man, that was very drunk. On a ſudden he fell from his horſe flat on his back a heavy fall, and immediately expired. I leaped off my horſe, and more by art than by ſtrength I drew up the fore part of his body, head, and ſtomach, to lean forwards on my body. After a long pauſe as I ſhook him upon my back, I felt him begin to draw breath, which he drew with a very long ſtroke, and loud noiſe through his noſtrils, as ſome do ſnore in their ſleep. With long patience I brought him home to his own houſe alive, leaving mine own road and buſineſs. I could not perſuade him to the opening of a vein, (ſome country people are very averſe to it) but by wrapping him in a warm ſheep ſkin, taken ſpeedily from a live ſheep, he recovered in few days. I have oft-times noted, that if a perſon falls on his head when he is drunk, he is much more apt to expire, loſeth his ſenſes, and dies away as ſome do in their vomit, if not carefully attended.

AN old man cut a deep clift in his foot between his inſtep and his toes, by the glance of his ax, and lay expiring by the waſte of his blood. As ſoon as I ſaw his caſe, I caught up his foot, and joining both ſides of the wound together with my hands, I ſo held it, till the blood turned and ſtayed, and the wound was in time healed. Some lives I have ſaved by cloſing the orifice or covering it, after I had read it in my lord of St. *Alban*'s. And ſome lives I came too late to ſave, which were loſt by the want of this advertiſement.

A REAPER in this neighbourhood ſtruck his reap-hook in that part of his leg, which is here called the pope's eye. No man could deviſe how to ſtop the effuſion of blood: a chirurgeon dips lint in vitriol, and ſo ſtops it ſuddenly, but the wound feſters, and the man dies ſoon after.

ABOUT three years before Sir *H. Wotton* died, there aſcended into his noſtrils ſome hypochondriacal vapours, which he and his phyſicians conceived to ariſe from his ſpleen, and much care they had to cure his ſpleen; but the vapours were in his own noſe ſo offenſive, that he thought them much worſe and more odious than any carrion, and that they gave the like offence to all others; for which cauſe for ſome weeks he admitted no perſon but *Nic. Oudart* and *Will. Knat* to come into the room. After he was ſatisfied of his miſtake, and that no offenſive ſmell came from him, he went all abroad for advice and cure. Then I heard the judgments of all famous phyſicians concerning ſpleen, melancholy, *&c.* and had the firſt notice, how the ſcorbutic had a large yet ſecret dominion, and ſent more to the grave than all other maladies; and ever ſince it hath ſo appeared by my computation, and now it is my own lot.

MY lady *Philips* tells me (oft-times repeating it) that when her huſband Sir *Robert Philips* was ſent to the *Tower*, the ſcorbute took away all her teeth (this was about forty years ago) yet ſhe ſtill ſurvives (in the conflict with that diſeaſe) in a healthy condition,

condition, with rosy cheeks, having been for many years only a water-drinker, and driven thereto to allay the heat, which then boiled in her stomach. If water gives health and longevity, why do we take so much pains, and send so far for so many sorts of drinks?

I CONFESS, that the scorbute did justly punish me for defaults in the best philosophy. My inward discomforts begot the disease. But why should a man yield to any such discomforts, as long as he can keep faith alive, and hope of a receptacle in heaven? If the heart were chearful and fixed on God's goodness and mercy, the simple diet of the long living age (water and wholesome grain) would be our best medicines and preservatives, and this may raise a resolution rather to embrace poverty, than to fear it.

I FED some years at the best sauced table (as fame spoke it) in *England*, and made a sudden change to a collegiate diet; and such like alteration I have more than thrice made, not by fits, but by habitude for some years in either kind, yet with no alteration of my health, but rather for the better at the jejune diet; and for five years, or thereabout, I drank mere wine, or mingled with water, the rest of my life I drank a middle sort of beer. But what is this, if compared with their change of diet, who travel in long voyages by sea, or adventure upon new plantations unprovided of their usual diet and lodgings? Such is the extensiveness of human capacity for the short tenure of our days, to the measure which hath been common these four thousand years, or near it. It is but a virtue of forty hours patience, to reduce the most luxurious palate to be satisfied and delighted in the coarsest rural fare; and that begets the firmest strength, and most constant health. But to pass from one extremity to the other by gentle degrees, is the safest motion; and a rural employment fits the stomach for rural fare. And then a man tastes the truth and sweetness of *Horace* in his Epodon:

Beatus ille
——*Dapes inemptas apparet.*

IN my childhood I had the measles, which (as I did then and do now guess) I caught, as I passed through a gatehouse, where in an inward chamber a servant lay sick of the measles. For I seemed to smell a noisome smell, as if it had been from a boar's-stye (for that smell continued in my nostrils for a week together, and so long it was before the symptoms appeared) loathing all food, and offended at my own breath. I was then much addicted to running, leaping, and such athletic exercises. The only medicine in those days for that disease, and for the small pox in all those countries, was a small handful of the reddle, with which here they reddle sheep, drank up in our ordinary beer. I tried it both for measles and small pox, and saw it used by many others, of which not one miscarried; which makes me say, that either the small pox of latter ages is more malignant, or the medicines more dangerous.

THE measles I had in a country village, and the next summer, in *Worcestershire* I caught the small pox, and I thought I smelt the same offensive smell as before in an apothecary's shop; and returning to the shop to enquire the matter, I was there informed, that a woman came then into the shop, who attended one that was sick of the small pox. If I had not my wound before, this answer might help fancy to beget it. As soon as we suspect the infection, we drink of this reddle in a draught of beer, fasting before and after. My brain was distempered; for a day or two I thought myself all the while tossed in the air by the clouds, which were as winnowing sheets, forcing me above ground, as chaff flies by the wind, and I uttered grave lectures of morality, being then about twelve years old. After two days, I could rise out of my bed, and, by foolish guides, was immediately put on horseback, and carried about twenty miles, the red

red puſtles riſing all the way as I rode, and a very giddy and weary journey I found it. Great care was taken, that I did not increaſe heat, nor take cold after I alighted from my horſe. And that I conceive ſhould be the chief care, and, perchance, all the medicine in thoſe diſeaſes, in which the blood is in a tumult. And this reddle I ſhould not deſpiſe in peſtilential infections, at leaſt to cleanſe the body of man, as it cleanſeth ſwine. And this I join to honourable Mr. *Boyle*'s Obſervations, Uſefulneſs of Experiments, part 2. c. 3. pag. 132.

COUNTRY folk have many ſluttiſh medicines, which ſerve their turn, and ſavour to them better than the apothecary's ſhop. For a bruiſe, ach, tumour, impoſthume, or cancered breaſts, cow's-dung, beſt when the cows feed in their kindeſt paſtures, and taken hot as it comes from the body of a cow, and fried with bear greaſe: for a ſtitch in the ſide, as they call a pleuriſy, the juice of horſe-dung, as that comes from the body of a horſe, preſſed and drunk in their ordinary beer; that of a ſtone-horſe, feeding high upon provender, being preferred. Pig's-dung, or rather boar's-dung, to ſtop the blood at the noſe. For ſore eyes, the white of hen-dung; for ſore throats, album græcum, *&c. &c.* their own urine, *&c.*

WHEN the peſtilence raged in *London*, (about thirty-five years ago) I was amongſt them for ſome weeks, and took much care to prevent, that I might not ſmell that boariſh ſmell, which ſeemed ſo nauſeous, when I took the infection of the meaſles and ſmall pox; to which purpoſe, I did contuſe rue in my noſtrils, and eat rue and ſage dipped in vinegar, with a morſel of bread and butter in the morning.

WHEN I am afflicted with deep ſorrow, or have eaten freely of pork, or any hog's fleſh, the foreſaid unpleaſant vapour returns into my noſtrils, or my left noſtril is ſo ſtopped by the thickneſs of the vapour, that I cannot breathe through it but with difficulty.

I WAS about fifty years old, before I made trial, or much believed the great power of elixirs, *Paracelſian* laudanum, or other richeſt medicaments. Now I have tried ſeveral of them, both upon myſelf, and upon many others; and will give a brief account in one or two examples.

MR. *H.* at ſeveral times ſent me three ſmall vials of elixir proprietatis *Helmont.* the laſt vial far more excellent than the two former; two or three drops of the laſt was more effectual than thrice as much of the other: to myſelf it was cordial, chearing, and reſtorative. I never failed to recover immediately from fits of the mother, hypochondriacal and convulſive fits. An old woman walking abroad early in the morning was ſmitten, as they call it, *è cœlo tacta*; there was no viſible blaſt upon any part of her body, but down ſhe fell, and the pangs of death were upon her, her pulſes ceaſing, and her breath almoſt ſtopped. In a ſpoonful of ſack, I forced down a few drops, and, in the time of a ſhort prayer, ſhe recovered, called for her clothes, and ſhe ſeemed to give us the guiſe of the reſurrection.

ANOTHER woman (aged above eighty) had kept her bed (unable to ſit up) a week, and lay hopeleſs. When I entered her chamber, thoſe that attended her ſaid, that her feet, legs, and thighs, were dead already ſome hours ago, and her breath departing; but almoſt as ſoon as ſhe received the doſe of elixir, ſhe ſpake with a ſtrong voice, and cheerfully; and within an hour or two, called for her clothes, roſe up, and recovered, and lived about two years after.

AN apothecary's wife of this town, by many diſcontentments, fell into ſwooning and hyſterical fits. The apothecary exerted all his *Galenical* art in vain for ſome weeks. With one doſe of this elixir, ſhe recovered for a month, and, after a relapſe, was recovered with one more doſe, and ſo hath continued theſe two years.

THE

THE laudanum, which I uſed, was *Helmontian*, and drawn, as I gueſs, by the ſame hand, which drew the elixir, Dr. *C.* To ſtop violent defluxions, and to appeaſe tumultuous ſpirits, and to give ſleep, two or three drops of it in beer have raiſed more of my wonder than the elixir did: and I have ſpent three or four vials, never failing of my expectation, but indeed ſurpriſed with the iſſue far beyond my expectation.

I HAVE tried a few ounces of ſpiritus cornu cervi, and found it a rare reſtorative.

BUT lately taking each morning three or four drops of eſſence of balſam in a ſpoonful of ſack, I find it very effectual to ſtop or eaſe a conſumptive cough, and to ſtrengthen nature.

ABOUT eight weeks ago, I had a virulent ulcer in the overpart of my noſtril, under the corner of my left eye; it had there continued above a month, increaſing the pain: going to bed, I took a pill of eight or nine grains of *Richard Matthews*, who juſtly and honeſtly (as his unelegant book ſhews) calls himſelf the unlearned alchymiſt: within an hour I found it work ſtrongly upon my noſtril, opening that paſſage, which is wont to be ſtopped by melancholy vapours, and diſtending it wider than ever I felt it before, and the griſtles ſeemed to make a creaking noiſe all the while: my ſtomach had a deep pain, and, I conceive, the doſe was too much by two or three grains; ſome gentle ſweat I had, and a kind ſtool on the morrow morning: and that very day the ulcer in my noſtril was healed.

BUT another ulcer of the like malignant kind was in the ſame noſtril near the end of my noſe; this was not healed: I took another pill of the ſame weight, and with like operation the ulcer abated, but was not quite cured. I took a third pill, and it was throughly cured. Now I ſeem to diſcern, that theſe ulcers proceeded from a ſcorbutical malignity: and ſurely this unlearned man found a medicine, that doth aſſiſt nature almoſt univerſally againſt any malady, and very proper, when the diſeaſe is radicate, or complicate with ſeveral diſaffections, that cannot bear a known name, or is of one kind, or of one nature.

I SAW a child of ſix years old ſo ſwelled about her head and face, that ſhe had no reſemblance of the countenance which ſhe had two hours before: my mother gueſſed what the matter might be, and forced her to vomit, and with it there came up a ſpider, ſo contuſed and broken, that we ſaw little more than the legs. After vomiting, the child took ſalad oil, and was ſuddenly well again.

I HAVE often debated why ſome medicines might not operate as ſtrongly and ſpeedily for health, as ſome poiſons do for death and deſtruction; and, in my ſmall experience, the chymiſt alone ſeems able to manage the queſtion, and by their aid I have ſeen ſuch ſudden and unexpected recoveries, as may be compared with the diſpatch of ſtrong poiſon.

JOHN CARY, a ſurgeon of this town, had mingled in one vial, for his chirurgical uſe, about four drams of ſublimate, with alum and lime; a woman drank it up, and was very ſick and ſwelled (or ſhe fancied ſo) immediately. This noble earl of *Marlborough* came by chance thither, and finding her caſe, poured his box of tobacco into a porringer of water, ſtirred it, and ſtrained it as ſoon as the water was lukewarm; ſhe drank it, and vomited, and was well.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Nov.* 9, 1663.

YOU cannot bear words, but require deeds. *Nefas verba tibi dare, rem præſtare oportet.* But what offering ſhall I bring? My poor ſtorehouſe hath nothing worthy of your altar; yet they were accepted, who brought goats hairs and badgers ſkins for the tabernacle. This is my caſe. About fifteen years of theſe late bad times I have been a poor farmer. And my hereditary intereſt was upon the mountains of

Seir,

Seir, amongſt *Edomites* (*Old Britains* and *Kymbrians.*) Here, as concerned, I converſed with *Cato*, *Varro*, *Columella*, *Palladius*, *Creſcentius*, *Collet*, *Paliſius*, and ſuch as I could get of *French*, *Spaniſh*, and *Italian* ruſtics, *Googes*, *Hereſbachius*, *Marlbanrying*, *Tuſſer*, Sir *H. Plat*, and *G. Plats*; and as far as Mr. *Hartlib*'s correſpondence would help my information. I tried all things, new and old, by the event, what might be done for improvement of *Engliſh* paſture, by *Engliſh* or foreign ſeed, or art, water, or aſhes, clover, ſaint foin. I tried the ways of finding ſprings, and conducting them; of healing bogs, or dragging uliginous land; I tried divers ſorts of grain; I examined the uſe of marl; how far and by what ways earth or ſoil might be altered or improved; divers compoſts; how vegetables and animals might be improved or employed for human uſe; how the wildeſt may be trained to be moſt accommodable. I enquired how far aſſes and mules might be fit for *England*, *Scotland*, *&c. &c.*

AND hence I here ſend you a wild ſheet of ſheep and goats, where you will read, that, in old account, ſheep were the ſoundeſt of cattle, goats never ſound; and if we regard the old rules (of which you find ſalt in uſe for ſheep) our flocks will be ſafe, and our herds of goats a peculiar riches in the land of miſery and barrenneſs. Of bogs, ſprings, marl, paſture, *&c.* I intend in order.

BUT what help from theſe ruſtical affairs for man's dominions? Very little I confeſs from my hand in this rude way. For I have no leiſure to poliſh, or to finiſh: but if I had a reſidence in *Greſham*, I ſhould rejoice to be a collector and compiler of others fuller informations. Now I can only adviſe, that you caſt a ſlight glance upon theſe, to taſte whether any line may be fit for your palate (for that is the beſt preferment it can have) and then ſpeedily to rid your mind of it, by putting it into the hands of ſome perſon, who undertakes theſe agreſtic affairs. Yet, if I did affect high language, and to make great promiſes, I would tell you, that by theſe clowniſh advertiſements, we can give man dominion over the winds, air, water, and lands. We can raiſe cool winds, in the extremeſt ſummer-heats; and conduct them for the beſt of human uſes. We can diſſolve the frozen winds of rigorous winter. At no charge we can ſearch the bowels of the earth, and by our ſprings diſcover all her treaſures, mineral, metalline, coal, *&c.* more by one man's art and experience, than by the labour of thouſands of pioneers, with ſpades or pickaxes, *&c. &c.*

AND let me ſay to you, that if you give theſe things in charge amongſt your acquaintance, that each man in his way may add to the ſearch of others, then you do fully proſecute the *Verulamian* deſign; then our labour is joined and collegiate, and not always running in the narrowneſs of ſingle endeavours. And what had *Cæſar*, *Alexander*, or *Solomon* done, the firſt in war, or the laſt in peace, if they had not employed more hands than their own?

SIR, eaſe your hands the more, that you may the better overſee the main work. And for us, that are in ſtreſs of buſineſs and diſtance, it is well, if we be hewers of wood and drawers of water.

I PRAY, that mine may not tempt you to further trouble, or divertiſement, than ſometimes to diſtil from you a ſhort line of directions, how I may in my beſt capacity ſerve your commands. Theſe and the annexed I have not time to review.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEAL.

Incloſed in the preceding.

Honourable SIR,

THE annexed are only a continuation of the former argument of medicine and ſheep. And this letter muſt be only a duplicate of my laſt boldneſs and importunity. You can better endure ſuch rudeneſs, whilſt it doth heartily proſecute philoſophical deſigns, than compliments, which import nothing but affections and opinion. I urge then again, that you know many hundreds, who can produce more experiments than I can, and of a far more noble nature. And your countenance, or beckoning of your finger, will ſet them all on work. In few weeks I can fill up a quire of ſuch goats hair, as you find. As ſoon as your collector hath culled out from many contributors, as much as will fill up a quire in the preſs, this being printed in quarto; ſo that we that labour in the work, and all others, may view and review it; by our correſpondents, and further experience, we ſhould be pregnant for more of the ſame, or like kind, and perchance (by oppoſitions) much improved. And thus it will grow, like a ſnow-ball, by rolling. And this is like collegiate work. The quarto will in ſhort time be many volumes, which any man may buy by parcel, or in groſs, at his pleaſure; and join, or divide, in volumes, as he liſteth.

I TOOK no care of choice, becauſe I refer that as another's buſineſs, and (as I ſaid before) he that brings matter commits no great fault, if he brings rather too much, than too little; and it is better to be too plain, than too curious. And this will diſcourage no hand that is laid to the work, when every one can do better.

FOR method, I declined it, and oft-times broke it of purpoſe, becauſe change is ſweeter than a continued ſeries of the ſame, or like; and *præter expectationem* more pleaſant than *chorda qui ſemper oberrat eadem*; and thus alſo theſe are topics for the practice of memory, which is one of my engagements; and if in the end of the experiment there be a *vide* for further reference, this will ſtring them to a fixed method, or note them for various uſes, as far as they deſerve.

THE main point will be in this, that you chuſe a fit collector, who reſides within your reach, that he may receive your frequent directions and caſtigations. And then we ſhall all expect the countenance of your preface. But becauſe it is reaſonable, that your honour and credit ſhould be concerned in other men's reports of their experiments, I ſhould yield, that our parcels ſhould bear a letter for a remark of his name, who would poiſon ſuch a noble enterpriſe with an untruth. And in the mean time, you may require further ſearch or evidence in any particular, as you ſee cauſe. For example, I thought a cupping-glaſs an eaſy remedy for ſuch horrid epileptical agonies, as ſeemed to all ſpectators diabolical. I made the proof oft-times upon Sir *R. P.* that is (in the ear) Sir *Robert Pye* of the Equerry. We are indeed of neareſt affinity, but for private reaſons I hold no correſpondence with him. Another may enquire of him the place and the matter, and ſee the mark on the place. I conceive it proceeded from a check, that was then put upon his luſt, when the body was pampered with high diet, and other provocations or temptations. And it may ſhew the way of evaporating thoſe tumultuous winds and ſpirits, with are oft-times deplored, as incurable. And I leave to yourſelf the larger inferences.

I HAVE ſometimes interlaced ſmall parcels of hiſtory, that all might paſs like a tale, that is told without much affectation, and yet improve for ſome benefit: and thus it may anſwer to lord *Bacon*'s title, *Hiſtoria, &c.* There is naturally ſomething of more ſmoothneſs and ſweetneſs in ſtory, than in argument. The firſt carries the liquid evidence of things done and paſt, and therefore paſt diſpute. The other may have nails or talons for the battle, but muſt not anticipate victory and triumph.

SIR,

SIR, do not you now aſk me, whether you have not other buſineſs more than enough, or whether you need ſuch a ſimple taſk-maſter? I can truly anſwer, that this I had offered for under-work at your ſervice, if in reaſon or modeſty I could have thought one note worthy of your enterpriſe. If you can raiſe any line to ſuch advancement, it is beyond and above my ambition: and yet I do ſtill keep hope, that in ſome following diſcourſes I may ſerve you in ſome ſmall meaſure. And do not you obſerve the moſt curious artificers lay aſide that, which ſerves not for their maſter-piece, and yet not caſt it away? This frugality is all my ſuit.

BUT yet I muſt increaſe my boldneſs, and intrude upon your own proper taſk. I have ſometimes treated with Mr. *Oldenburg* of the conduct, by which the froth of falſe literature, and ſpawn of the printing-preſs, may be enforced to give way to true light, and ſound information. The term is almoſt paſt, and yet I find not all the effects of my poor advice. Is not the united and conſtant activity of the Royal Society able to communicate the moſt ſeaſonable information of what is abroad? How few members, or how eaſily one member, by few correſpondents, may give intelligence to all the inns of courts, ſee their ſtationers fully furniſhed with a fit ſtore for the buyers? So in the Exchanges, *Weſtminſter-hall*, and all places of conſiderable reſort. The like from *Paul*'s to the univerſities, and all over *England*. And back again the like activity from all ſtationers in the ſkirts of *England* to the metropolis. Here a poor man can awaken *Briſtol*, *Bath*, *Wells*, *Dorcheſter*, and more on the other ſide of *Severn*. This diligence revived every term, and every fair, and in all acts and commencements of our univerſities, will continually increaſe in force. If we call it modeſty, to deſpiſe theſe condeſcenſions, we muſt alſo call it modeſty, to renounce our main work. I think I ſee you eaſily, and without any ſtrain of violence, or the leaſt appearance of ambition, give influence to both the univerſities. And then, though *Greſham* hath no ſettled revenues, yet the colleges of under-workmen have fair revenues. And I think it lawful to interrogate, why all our beſt *Engliſh* preſſes are not already employed upon old and freſh treatiſes of nobleſt uſe? Some to revive, compare, and advance *Pancirollus* by later diſcoveries. And as I have moved already for medicine and *Georgics* (where I do yet want the reprinting of *Creſcentius*, of which I have ſeen a better copy in the library of *Hereford*, than the common impreſſion, and others) ſo I ſolicit the like hiſtorical collection in all our affairs of art and nature, mathematical, *&c.* I think our credit might extend for the reprinting of theſe *Latin* authors in the foreign preſſes of the *Low Countries*, *Paris*, *&c.* and to take up the *Engliſh*, at leaſt the academical preſſes, beſides. Theſe high adventures we muſt ſolicit with conſtant activity, and reſolution, to ſtop the current ſtream of impertinent babble, or we ſhall be carried down the ſtream.

SIR, when you firſt ſaw me at *Eton*, I was reputed a ſchoolman (though I had then read throughly much more of lord *Bacon*, than is yet printed, having ſeen in manuſcript all his embryos, his *gradus rerum & gradus verborum*; and the prefaces, and joints, and anacephalæoſis to all his judgments, as lord chancellor; which raiſed me a little above a mere ſchoolman) yet Sir *H. Wotton*, would often pleaſe himſelf in laſhing the ſchoolmen upon my back; and would often declare it as a ſerious prediction, that in this age their reputation ſhould yield to more uſeful philoſophy. (And in his *Reliquiæ* you may find ſome letters, whereof two or three were to myſelf, and more of the like I have in my poſſeſſion, in which he had our reliſhes, but with more addiction to curioſities) ſo long ago I had my encouragements for this boldneſs; and now the ſeaſon is in full maturity, and you have charged in the van, and we cannot do leſs than to wiſh you good ſpeed.

Honourable Sir, your moſt faithful ſervant,

J. B.

THE ſheet of goats ſhould follow the fourth of ſheep, as introduced in the laſt clauſe of the fourth.

I TOOK little care to tranſcribe *Columella* exactly, my book being a very falſe print, falſe in moſt periods. And the four old *Roman Georgical* writers being long ago out of print, excellent matter and authentical *Latin*, they deſerve an academical diligence for the beſt impreſſion, for which the edition of *Stephanus*, which I gueſs to be the beſt, will give good aid.

SIR, in the paper of coted ſheep, there is an exemplar to a clauſe at the diſcourſe.

Sheep, how to prevent their rot.

THEY yield us the wholſomeſt fleſh, and warmeſt raiment. The ſtaple commodity for trade and manufactures. They feed on our thinneſt paſtures and fallows; and enforce our weakeſt lands to afford us bread and hearty drink. And of ſmall cattle would bring the ſpeedieſt and greateſt gain, if we could be ſafe from the unlucky years of rot; and this we might much more often eſcape, if the owners were not commonly guilty of covetouſneſs, or the ſhepherds of negligence. For hard uſage in the winter, and want of old and dry hay in the months, which are moſt deſtructive to their livers, is the general cauſe of their deſtruction.

Gabriel Plats aſſures us with confidence, taken from the experience of ſeventy-four years by himſelf and his predeceſſors (himſelf an eye-witneſs, and diligently obſerving it for twenty-four years; and his predeceſſors booking their experience of fifty years) that the only infectious months, that beget the great rot, are *May* and *June*, when exceſſive moiſtures befal thoſe months: it is no very great charge to be provided of ſome ſtore of old and dry hay for the time of great moiſtures and over forward graſs in theſe months. And by my own experience for fourteen years at leaſt, in the moſt rotten vales, by a more liberal allowance of hay in thoſe months, I have ſaved my ſmall flocks of the ſheep, which bear the firſt wool, and are moſt ſubject to the rot, when, for want of ſuch relief, all the ſheep in the neighbourhood round about us very generally died of the rot. And the plenty of moiſture in thoſe months doth always promiſe great ſtore of hay to repleniſh the racks.

THAT fine graſs, which is raiſed by thoſe moiſtures, with the help of hay and dry food, does oft-times fatten the ſheep on a ſudden, and then when the fleece is taken off, it is no loſs, but much gain to put off the fatteſt ware to the ſhambles, as *Tuſſer* in his merry rhimes directeth in general, and particularly for hogs or ſwine, which may more properly be applied for ſheep;

> Whatever thing fat is a gain, if it fall,
> Thou vent'reſt the thing, and the fatneſs withal.
> The fatter the better to ſell or to kill,
> But not to continue, make proof, if you will.

As men by a ſudden change from a rank diet to a ſlender fare, fall into the dropſy, ſo will other animals, and ſheep ſooneſt of any.

G. Plats gives it for an infallible ſymptom, that when bees fail, and their hives feel light, a great rot of ſheep is to be expected; which gives a very ſeaſonable warning to bleed the ſheep under the eye, or in the mouth, as oft as they ſee occaſion in the end of ſummer, or in autumn, or to accuſtom them that are ſuſpected, to lick ſalt in the troughs, or to take ſome brine with ſome dry food, as they may eaſily be trained to it by gentle degrees, or to force down a doſe of ſalt in their throats, as is directed.

IT

IT is by *G. Plats* affirmed, and I find it generally received, that the ſalt marſhes do much help the ſheep; and ſuch as dwell more remote from ſalt marſhes may do their flocks much good, if they can exchange the ſoil, eſpecially for ſounder and drier grounds. And (as I take it) there is ſome good in changing your paſture for a ſhort time, though it be to a worſe ground, if the ſhepherd's care be to bleed the ſheep, that cannot obtain the butcher's purſe and knife.

MY man, that preſerved my flock in a very rank ſoil, was very frequent in opening a vein under the eye, or in the mouth, as ſoon he perceived a ſheep to droop; and by uſing to look on the veins or red parts about the eye, he could diſcern when a ſheep did want bleeding.

Gabriel Plats takes care to diſtinguiſh what hay is kindeſt for ſheep, and prefers the hardeſt and drieſt before the ſucculent clover, or (as he calls it) the ſilken hay, which is fitteſt for cows and calves. I have often enquired and examined, whether there be not ſome vegetables moſt peculiarly proper for this malady in ſheep, and ſcurvy graſs is moſt proper to relieve the ſcorbutical, *&c.* And a grave ancient miniſter at a great meeting did aſſure us, upon his own experience for many years, that knot-graſs, that had been waſhed twice or thrice, as it grew by the ſea-water, was an effectual remedy. But where ſhall ſuch ſtore of that graſs be found for them, that have great flocks, and far from the ſea? I have ſeen ſome mowing grounds bear ſtore of a yellow ſmall bloſſomed tre-foil, which is very friendly to enliven and ſtrengthen ſheep; when it was green on the ground a fortnight before mowing time, I tried cows and oxen, and they refuſed it by itſelf, and horſes, whilſt they had common graſs, left it; but ſheep did eat it more cheerfully.

I HAVE noted mowing grounds to make ſome change of their graſs, as the years proved moiſt or droughty; and then moſt eſpecially, when the drought or moiſture hath continued two or three ſprings together: (the drought begetting hawk-weed, hard heads, and white bodies, the moiſture increaſing clovers) as I ſhould think by this vale in graſs we may be directed what hay is kindeſt for ſheep. And in that innumerable variety of graſs of all ſorts, we cannot make ſuch choice as if we dealt by retail. We can only take that, which ſeems moſt likely; and other cattle receive no hurt from hay, if it be fine enough: but the cow is weakened by hay, that hath ſtore of cat's tails; and our ſmall ſheep, which bear the fineſt wool (the ewes at leaſt when they bear lambs) do require the fineſt hay, and ſucculent.

I DO not ſay, that the turf is always altered by drought or moiſture. For I have ſometimes ſeen an unprofitable graſs (as namely peacock's bent) ſo abundantly and pertinaciouſly adhere to a ſoil, that it could not be altered by the fat floods, which every winter were brought over it, till the turf was quite pared off, freſh earth brought in the place, and ſowed with the beſt of *Engliſh* hay-duſt.

GROUNDS newly laid for paſture are noted to infect ſheep, and I have obſerved ſuch new laid grounds for the firſt and ſecond year to bring forth ſtore of the knot-graſs. But this cannot contradict the former praiſe of ſalted knot-graſs, nor can demonſtrate that knot-graſs is hurtful to ſheep. Poſſibly they may like it ſo well, and find it ſo friendly, that to bite it too near the root, they lick up too much of the ſoil. And if ſheep come to paſture, that was lately flooded, or hath much looſe ſoil on the graſs, they are ſoon tainted.

THOUGH *G. Plats* aſſures upon his hereditary and particular experience of ſeventy-four years, that neither the immoderate moiſture of *July*, *Auguſt*, and *September*, nor thoſe kells, which like cob-webs do ſometimes cover the grounds, do beget the rot in ſheep; yet do I much commend ſome careful ſhepherds, who do never ſuffer their ſheep to graze upon the grounds in the mornings, when they do firſt go forth to paſture, nor

nor after rain, before they have been gently driven over their grounds, that their feet may break thoſe kells, and beat off the dews, and over much moiſture from the graſs. For that frequent and gentle motion is a ſeaſonable and healthful exerciſe for the cattle, and over much moiſture cannot be healthful for ſheep. And the ſheep are a comfort and help to each other, if they accuſtom to gather together in flocks in the time of great rain, and at the time, which may be ſpared from feeding in clammy weather.

IF no hay can be had in thoſe infectious months of over-moiſt *May* and *June*, there muſt be ſome eſpecial care to keep the ſheep (during thoſe moiſtures) in the higheſt, drieſt, and ſoundeſt grounds; which may by a little uſe be eaſily diſtinguiſhed from the infectious grounds by the verdure of that ſweet graſs, which tainteth the ſheep; which is not one peculiar herb, as ſome deſcribe it like purſlane, nor as others ſuſpect it to be a ſpearwort, though poſſibly ſome emergent plant may be a remark of an infectious paſture.

THERE are many ſalt or brackiſh ſprings in *England*, beſides the *Weeches*, and more may daily be diſcovered, and much brine may be raiſed by many houſe-keepers. The ſalt water may be boiled and ſcummed, and the brine may be mingled, as I ſaid before, with oats, peaſe, or beans, or enforced in the doſe. Of which ſee *Columella* recited in the end of the following paper.

The government and choice of ſheep extracted out of Columella, *and compared with our modern cuſtoms and experience in* England.

Colum. lib. 7. c. 2. Poſt majores quadrupedes ovilli pecoris ſecunda ratio eſt, quæ prima ſit, ſi ad utilitatis magnitudinem referas.—Tum quod corporibus noſtris liberiora præbet velamina, tum etiam quod caſei lactiſque abundantia non ſolum agreſtes ſaturat, ſed etiam elegantium menſas jucundis & numeroſis dapibus exornat.—As in ſome parts of *Italy*, ſo alſo in ſome parts of *England*, they have a hardy fair ſheep, which with ſome help of a paſture (which may be too thin for the graſing of other cattle) do yield a great relief of milk, which makes a white ſhining butter, ſomewhat like lard, and fit for the hardy labourer; but being mixed with cow's milk, or of itſelf, amends cheeſe: for cheeſe is the better for that rankneſs. *Tuſſer* gives us the ſafe rule, and the juſt proportion.

May's Huſbandry.

At *Philip* and *Jacob* away with thy lambs,
That thinkeſt to have any milk of their dams;
At *Lammas* leave milking for fear of a thing,
Leſt *requiem æternam* in winter they ſing.
To milk and to fold them is much to require,
Except ye have paſture to fill their deſire.
Yet many by milking, ſuch heed they do take,
Not hurting their bodies, much profit do make.
Five ewes to a cow make proof by a ſcore,
Shall double thy dairy, elſe truſt me no more.
Yet many good houſewife, that knoweth the ſkill,
Have mixt and unmixt at their pleaſure and will.

THIS is no ſmall gain for a ſcore of ſheep to be as good as four cows, where cow-paſture is ſcarce; ſince the plough cannot go merrily, where this white meat is wanting.

Id pecus, quamvis molliſſimum ſit, valetudinis tutiſſimæ eſt, miniméque peſtilentiæ. In hot countries other cattle die more frequently of the peſtilence than ſheep; and in *England*

we have ſeen the plague in horſes, and the murrain in other cattle, much more dangerous than the rot in ſheep, which may be cured, or at leaſt prevented, by ſuch help and diligence as is directed.

Verum tamen eligendum eſt ad naturam loci.—Pinguis & campeſtris ſitus proceras oves tolerat; gracilis & collinus quadratas: ſilveſtris & montoſas exiguas: pratis planiſque novalibus tectum pecus commodiſſimè paſcitur.—This *tectum pecus* anſwers to our ſmall ſheep of *Lemſter's oar* and *Herefordſhire*, which bears the fineſt wool, and do require all ſummer and winter the ſhelter of warm coats or houſes. And he alſo diſtinguiſheth them by their countries, *Mileſias, Calabras, Appulas, earumque optimas Tarentinas*, which are the ſame, which before he called *tectum pecus*; ſo that we find a difference in the ſheep of *Herefordſhire, Shropſhire, Cotſall, Somerſet, Dorſetſhire*, &c.

HE commends the white as capable of any colour, yet allows *pullum & fuſcum, quos præbet in Italia Pollentia—Nec minus Aſia rutilos. Sed & alias varietates in hoc pecoris genere docuit uſus exprimere.* And here he commends his uncle *Columella*, for joining ſeveral kinds for novel varieties; and this I have ſeen often tried by putting *Cotſall* rams to our *tectum genus*; but except the invention be better, we muſt not boaſt of the ſucceſs.

Ex albo ſæpe fuſcus editur partus, ex Erythræo vel pullo nunquam generatur albus. It ſeems *Jacob's* luck will always hold, that the black, dark-coloured, pied, or dappled ſheep, will predominate, if any ſpotted males be admitted. Whence he joins with *Virgil*, to examine the very mouth of the male and to ſee that no part of the tongue or palate be ſpotted.

Nigra ſubeſt udo tantum cui lingua palato *Virgil.*
Rejice—ne maculis infuſcat vellera pullis.—

FOR horned or not horned, he prefers the horned as beſt defended in cold climates; not horned, where no fear of hard tempeſts. *Itaque ſi plerumque eſt atrocior hyems, hoc genus (i. e. ampliſſimis cornibus) eligemus: ſi clementior, mutulum probabimus marem.* In *Herefordſhire* the ewes are ſeldom horned; here, in *Somerſetſhire*, the whole flock is horned; which, to our country, would ſeem ſtrange and hurtful.

HE noteth the horned to be more apt to fight, and directeth the ſhepherd to knock nails in a board, and therewith knocking their foreheads, they may be tamed. *Ea res ferum prohibet à rixa, cum ſtimulatum ſuo ictu ipſum ſe ſauciat.* I knew a ſhepherd had his thigh broken, and have heard of others, that were ſlain by fighting rams. To prevent ſuch miſchiefs, I recited *Columella's* invention. And he addeth from *Epicharmus, pugnacem arietem mitigari terebra ſecundum auriculas foratis cornibus, qua curvantur in flexu.*

Ejus quadrupedis ætas ad progenerandum optima eſt trima, nec tamen inhabilis uſque ad annos octo. Fœmina poſt bimatum maritari debet; juveniſque habetur quinquennies; fatiſcit poſt annum ſeptimum. He inſtructeth the buyer to open the wool, and examine whether grey be not mingled with the white.—*Variam & canam comam improbabis, quod ſit incerti coloris.* And we ſay, the beſt time to buy them is at two years, and not to meddle with ſuch as are paſt three: the one is not yet ripe for profit, the other is already paſt it.

Eleges bimam vaſti corporis, cervice prolixa, prolixi velli, nec aſperi, lanoſi & ampli uberi; nam vitandus eſt glaber & exiguus. True, this is the beſt choice for *Cotſal-downs*, and the champain commons of *Warwickſhire*; but in *Herefordſhire* we muſt be content with ſmall ſheep with glabious faces, and little or no wool on their legs or bellies.

For cotes or houſes he directs: *Illa etiam tuendis humilia facere ſtabula, ſed in longitudinem potius quam in latitudinem porrecta, ut ſimul hieme calida ſint, nec anguſtiæ fœtus oblidant.*

oblidant. This we approve, that for ſuch as muſt be houſed, the houſes ſhould be warm, but not too cloſe; and that ewes with young, and weak ſheep, be ſevered by partitions from ſuch as are ſtronger.

Ea poni debent contra medium diem. Namque id pecus, quamvis ex omnibus animalibus veſtitiſſimum, frigoris tamen impatientiſſimum eſt, nec minus æſtivi vaporis. This ſhews, that for our ſheep of fineſt wool, we ſhould take more care in theſe points than commonly we do.

Deturque opera, ne quis humor ſubſiſtet, ut ſemper quam aridiſſimis filicibus vel culmis ſtabula conſtrata ſint, quo purius & mollius incubent fœta. Herein alſo we are too negligent, moſt of us not cleanſing the cotes, or removing the litter, more than twice in the year; but only over-laying freſh litter: yet, as I take it, *Hereſbachius* directeth, that the floor be ſloping, (ſo it is in ſtables for horſes) that the urine may paſs away before it ſpoils their feet, or fleeces. But to the uſe of fern, ſome of our ſhepherds do ſay, that fern rots ſheep, and ſpoils the dung. And we ſhall be at a loſs, if the urine be not received in litter for compoſt.

Sint quala munditiſſima, ne qua earum valetudo, quæ præcipue cuſtodienda eſt, infectetur uligine. It ſeems, that cleanlineſs, as well as other good winter relief, makes ſheep the hardier to reſiſt the infection in ſpring and ſummer. We uſe a ſort of double cratches, that the ſheep may feed on both ſides, and not leap upon the top of the hay, to foul it with their feet, dung and urine.

THAT thiſtles, burs, and thorny buſhes, are bad gueſts in ſheep-paſture, he confirms, by the authority of *Virgil*; and that a few ſheep well fed on ſound grounds, are more profitable than larger flocks ill provided. *Nam vel exiguus numerus, cum pabulo ſatiatur, plus domino reddit, quam maximus grex cum ſenſerit penuriam. Sequeris autem novalia, non ſolum herbida, ſed quæ plerumque vidua ſunt ſpinis, utamurque ſæpius authoritate divini carminis.*

Si tibi lanitium curæ eſt, primum aſpera ſylva,
Lappæque, tribulique abſint.———

Quoniam ea res, ut ait idem, ſcabras oves reddit cum "tonſis illotus adhæſit ſudor, & "hirſutis ſecuerunt corpora vepres." Cum etiam quotidie minuitur lana, quæ quanto prolixior in pecore concreſcit, tanto magis obnoxia eſt rubis. This buſhy ground then is proper for goats.

THAT the ancients adviſed the uſe of ſalt, and change of paſture, and to avoid uliginous moiſt lands, and to chooſe the fallows for preſervation of ſheep, we may find (and all this together in one period) in *Columella, lib. 7. c. 3. Jucundiſſimas herbas eſſe, quæ aratro proſciſſa arois naſcantur: deinde quæ pratis uligine carentibus paluſtres ſylveſtreſque minime idoneas haberi, nec tamen ulla ſunt tam blanda pabula, aut etiam paſcua, quorum gratia non exoleſcat uſu continuo, niſi pecudum faſtidio paſtor occurrerit, præbito ſale, quod velut ad pabuli condimentum per æſtatem canalibus ligneis impoſitum cum è paſtu redierint oves lambunt, atque eo ſapore cupidinem bibendi paſcendique concipiunt.*

Of ſheep: the rules of the old writers of Italy *compared with the modern cuſtoms of* England.

COLUMELLA makes the queſtion, whether the female ſhould be admitted to the ram in ſpring or autumn, and gives his judgment for the vernal time; that the weather ſheep may gather ſtrength before winter. *Inter authores fere conſtat, primum eſſe admiſſuræ tempus vernum parilibus, ſi ſit ovis matura: ſin vero fœta, circa Julium menſem. Prius tamen haud dubie probabilius, ut meſſem vindemia fructum deinde. Viaticum fœtura pecoris excipiat,*

excipiat, & totius autumni pabulo ſatiatus agnus ante mœſtitiam frigorum, atque hiemis jejunium confirmetur. Nam melior eſt autumnalis verno, ſicut ait veriſſimè Celſus, quia magis ad rem pertinet, ut ante æſtivum quam hibernum ſolſtitium convaleſcat, ſoluſque ex omnibus animalibus bruma commode naſcitur. And we prefer the winter lamb, that is yeaned near *Candlemas*, as by winter beſt hardened to reſiſt the taint of the ſummer.

THEY had a curious rule of tying the one or other cod of the ram, according as they deſired the lambs ſhould be either male or female; but he rejects it as a troubleſome curioſity. *Ut admiſſarii dexter vel ſiniſter vinculo teſticulus obligetur, in magnis gregibus operoſum eſt.* I have not tried the truth of this rule, but he voucheth *Ariſtotle* for another like curioſity to the ſame effect. *Ariſtoteles, vir calidiſſimus rerum naturæ, præcipit admiſſuræ tempore ſiccis diebus halitus ſeptentrionales, ut contra ventum gregem paſcamus, ut eum ſpectans admittatur pecus; at ſi fœminæ generandæ ſunt auſtrinos flatus captare, ut eadem ratione matrices ineantur.* This I muſt leave as I find it, being by me untried.

WHERE we expect from the ewes milk for the dairy, it is beſt to turn off the lambs to the butcher. *Villicus enim teneros agnos, dum adhuc herbæ ſunt expertes, lanio tradit, quoniam & parvo ſumptu devehuntur, & iis ſummotis fructus lactis ex matribus non minor percipitur.*

HE prefers our own breed of ſheep better than change from remoter places. *Summitti tamen etiam in vicinia urbis quandoque oportebit; nam vernaculum pecus peregrino longe eſt utilius. Neque committi debet, ut totus grex effœtus ſenectute dominum deſtituat; cum præſertim boni paſtoris vel prima cura ſit, annis omnibus in demontuarum vitioſarumque ovium totidem vel etiam plura capita ſubſtituere, quoniam ſæpe frigorum atque hyemis ſævitia paſtorem decipit, & eas oves interimit, quas ille tempore autumni ratus eſſe tolerabiles, non ſummoverat.*

THE ancient and modern agree, that neither the race of the very old nor of young ewes are fit for breed:

AND that ewes do oft-times want the art of midwifery. *Neque enim aliter hoc animal, quam muliebris ſexus enititur, ſæpiuſque etiam quantum eſt omnis rationis ignarum laborat, in partu.*

THE nurſing art is curiouſly taught. To caſt away ſome of the firſt milk, and to hold up the lamb to the ewe's udder, preſſing the milk into the lamb's mouth, *&c. Agnus autem, cum eſt editus, erigi debet, atque uberibus admoveri, tum etiam ejus diductum os preſſis humectare papillis, ut condiſcat maternum trahere alimentum: ſed priuſquam hoc fiat, exiguum emulgendum eſt, quod paſtores coloſtram vocant: ea niſi aliquatenus emittitur, nocet agno.*

FOR two days after birth the ewe and lamb ſhould be incloſed together, that the ewe may know her lamb, and the lamb her mother. *Biduo, quo natus eſt agnus, cum matre clauditur, ut & ea partum ſuum foveat, & ille matrem agnoſcere condiſcat.*

HE requires a dark and cloſe pen for the lamb, leſt by too much wanton play they take hurt. *Mox deinde, quamdiu non laſcivit, obſcuro & calido ſepto cuſtodiatur: poſteà luxuriantem virgea cum comparibus aurea claudi oportebit, ne velut pueri nimia exultatione macereſcat.* I have oft-times wondered to ſee the faireſt and moſt ſportful lambs on a ſudden to fall away, wither, and die. The old ſhepherds would perſuade me, they were bewitched; and indeed in old fame young pigs and tender lambs are apteſt to receive miſchief from the envious eye, *Neſcio quis teneros oculus mihi facinat agnos.* But I always ſuſpected this over-much liberty of ſporting to be for the moſt part the witchcraft.

THE weak lamb ſhould be ſevered from the ſtrongeſt, leſt in ſport they receive hurt. *Cavendum eſt, ut tenerior ſeparetur à validioribus, quia robuſtus angit imbecillum.* We want this care alſo.

He ſaith it is enough for the lambs to ſuck twice a day. In the morning early before the ewes go abroad; and in the evening when the ewes come full home. *Satiſque eſt mane priuſquam grex procedat in paſcua, deinde etiam crepuſculo redeuntibus ſaturis ovibus, admiſcere agnos, qui, cum firmi eſſe cœperint, paſcendi ſunt intra ſtabula cytiſo vel medica, tum etiam furfuribus, aut, ſi permittat annona, farina ordei, vel ervi.* Of this we take too little care. Cytiſe and medic we have not, and we ſpare the charges of ground malt, or barley meal. But ſome ſhepherds provide ſtore of miſſeltoe, and ſmooth leaves of holly, for the ewes, and the fineſt graſs for the lambs, and bran, and, as I ſhould think, ſome flour of peaſe, oats, and fitches ſhould not be too coſtly. And ſome admit the lambs to ſuck thrice a day, in the morning, at noon, and evening. And as ſoon as the lambs have fit ſtrength they go in the paſture with the ewes, (but not ſo early) to learn to feed. *Ubi convaluerit, circa meridiem pratis aut novalibus villæ contiguis matres admovendæ ſunt, & à ſepto emittendi agni, ut condiſcant foris paſci.*

FOR food in this time of milk for lambs, he adds the leaves or ſmall branches of elm, and aſh, or hay of the latter mowing, and barley, peaſe, and beans, if not too coſtly. *Aluntur commodiſſimè repoſitis ulmeis, vel ex fraxino frondibus, vel autumnali fœno, quod cordum vocatur: nam id mollius, & ob hoc jucundius quam maturum: cytiſo quoque & ſativa vitea pulcherrime paſcuntur: neceſſariæ tamen, ubi cæteræ defecerint, etiam ex leguminibus paleæ, nam per ſe ordeum & freſſa cum ſuis valvulis faba, vel cicercula ſumptuoſior eſt.*

COLUMELLA with *Virgil*'s authority directs the time of feeding and of watering the flocks—*Luciferi primo cum ſidere*—From our *Ogleby* it is thus our own ſtyle.

> At the firſt dawn in cold grounds let them feed,
> Whilſt day is young, and pearled is the mead,
> When dew to cattle dear on ſoft graſs lies,
> And the fourth hour heat muſters from the ſkies;
> And amongſt ſtubs the murmuring graſhopper ſings;
> Command thy flocks then to the lakes or ſprings,
> Or let them taſte ſweet ſtreams in pipes convey'd.

FIRST this is beyond our ordinary diligence in this colder climate. Secondly in this account the morning is more friendly to ſheep, than we do commonly eſteem it—*Et ros in tenera pecori gratiſſimus herba eſt*; and *Gabriel Plats* aſſureth, that it is the rank graſs, and not the dews, that does the hurt; yet he taketh ſo little care for the watering of ſheep, that he ſaith, they may live altogether without it, and care not to drink except they ſee water. But for ewes, that give milk, it is in all reaſon fit, and may deſerve *Virgil*'s item.

> *At cui lactis amor cytiſum, lotoſque frequentes*
> *Ipſe manu ſalſaſque ferat præſepibus herbas,*
> *Hinc & amant fluvios magis, & magis ubera tendunt,*
> *Et ſalis occultum referunt in lacte ſaporem.*

BUT this in *Virgil* is rather meant of the goats, than of ſheep, but may well belong to both; for in thoſe old days, as well as in theſe, ſalt had the reputation to preſerve the health of ſheep. And I conceive *Markham*'s directions in that point may be conſiderable. He tells us, that where the ſea-water hath waſhed the marſhes, the ſun dries it into a reddiſh ſalt (by him called ſal alderſe, or ſome ſuch name) which is peculiar for the recovery of ſheep. May not this ſalt be eaſily gathered on the ſea-coaſts, and at eaſy rates?

BUT

BUT for watering in the evening we have the same double authority,

Solis ad occasum, cum frigidus aëra vesper
Temperat, & saltus reficit jam roscida luna.

COLUMELLA's caution in hotter countries may advertise us in very hot seasons; *sed observandum est sidus æstatis per emersum caniculæ, ut ante meridiem grex in occidentem spectans agatur, & in eam partem progrediatur, post meridiem in orientem. Siquidem plurimum refert, ut pascentium capita sint observa soli, qui plerumque nocet animalibus oriente prædicto sidere.* It is better to be so curious, than be too negligent.

FOR warm lodging and fodder in winter we may join with *Columella*, as far as our frugality will permit, and can easily observe the rest: *Quare etiam frigidis humidisque temporibus anni semel tantum ei potestas aquæ est facienda.*

No fierce driving. *Tum qui sequitur gregem circumspectus ac vigilans magna clementia moderetur, idemque duci propior quam domino.*

HE gives not the shepherd leave to lie down, but to shew his face for a comfort to those melancholic cattle. *Neque ab his aut longe recedat, nec aut recubet, aut confidat. Nam nisi procedat, stare debet, quoniam grex quidem custodis officium, sublimem celsissimamque oculorum speculam desiderat, ut neque tardiores & gravidas, dum cunctantur, neque agiles & fœtas, dum procurrunt, separari à cæteris sinat, ne fur aut bestia hallucinantem pastorem decipiat.* And we add, that singing, whistling, piping, and other music is physic against their natural melancholy, and for us men also, if in the lays of old *Tityrus*.

COLUMELLA prescribes many old and excellent and curious medicines for the peculiar diseases of sheep, lib. vii. c. 5. But every shepherd should be always provided against the common diseases: of rankness of blood, which makes them drop down, and die immediately; against the scab, begotten by hard winter and poverty. For which the use of tobacco and sufficient dry food and shelter exceeds all old receipts; and against sores and wounds easily healed with tar; and against giddiness and weakness of the liver begetting the rot, against which juniper berries have a peculiar commendation, and may be added to the former prescriptions against the rot. The worms and diseases in the feet, may by art be cut out, and healed with tar, alum, and liquor. The fever by letting blood between the claws in the feet, or under the eyes, or ears. Why should we spare the blood of a sheep (the most general and most effectual remedy) when our care of sheep is not for their long lives, but for their fat, flesh, skin, and fleece?

Of coted sheep.

De Ovibus Tectis, Colum. l. vii. *c.* 4.

NEITHER here nor in my former, do I take these words, *Of coted sheep*, to be the genuine and proper translation of *Columella*'s title, *de ovibus tectis*; but I use the word only by way of allusion, because, as their sheep in *Italy*, which bore the finest wool, wore coats or covering garments, to defend them from heat of summer, and cold of winter, and for the improvement of wool, so in *England* our sheep, which bear the finest wool, have cotes or houses for their defence all nights, winter and summer, and in the saddest days of winter. Of the sheep, which bear the coarse fleeces, we take not that care in most places of *England*.

THAT these *oves tectæ* had some covering besides their own fleeces, may appear by these words of *Columella*, l. vii. c. 4. *Liberis autem campis, & omni furculo ruboque vacantibus ovem Græcam pasce meminerimus, ne & lana carpatur, & tegumen.* And more clearly in the foregoing chapter, *Quanto lana prolixior in pecore concrescit, tanto magis*

obnoxia eſt rubis, quibus velut hamis inuncata, à paſcentium tergoribus avellitur; molle vero pecus etiam velamen, quo protegitur, amittit, atque id non parvo ſumptu reparatur.

FROM whence I deem it worthy our enquiry, whether we in *England* may not make a conſiderable improvement of our wool, if we covered our ſheep, and took the other aids for the fineneſs and growth of wool, which we ſee preſcribed by the old writers; and poſſibly ſome new aid we may find, which excels their aids. And again, we may enquire, whether it might not be available (in theſe times of general commerce by the benefit of navigation) to furniſh thoſe *Engliſh* counties, which yield the fineſt wool, with thoſe kind of ſheep, which were clothed. Or at leaſt (as *Columella*'s uncle did, l. vii. c. 2.) to get rams of this fineſt kind. For to the *Italians* it was not then the native ſheep, but (as *Columella* ſays) *Græcum pecus, quod plerique Tarentinum vocant.* And we ſee how the ſilk-worm hath travelled from the *Eaſt* through *Perſia* and *Italy*, both weſtward and northward, even to our cold and watery climate, if we ſo pleaſed.

AND ſurely it would be ſome conſiderable reward for a ſhepherd's diligence, if he could make his ſheep bear ſilk, and keep them ſafe alſo; and I make no doubt, but we may have ſuch ſilk from our ſheep, as may paſs for the ſilk of the Old Teſtament, ſuch as was uſed for the tabernacle in the *Levitical* rites. For (as judicious interpreters do acquaint us) the ſilk ſo often mentioned in the Old Teſtament, as pertaining to the tabernacle, or to the temple for *Levitical* rites, was not the ſilk of the worm; which was an unclean inſectile, and therefore unholy; but was ſome fine cotton, or fine wool, as it is expreſly called by the author of the epiſtle to the *Hebrews*, c. ix. v. 19. "with water and ſcarlet wool, ἐρίῳ κοκκίνῳ." For ſome wool contends for fineneſs with ſome cottons, and ſome hair contends with furs or wool for fineneſs, and ſome furs, ſome wool, and ſome cottons do approach as near to the ſilk of the great *Virginian* ſilk-worms, as that ſilk approacheth to the ſilk of *Naples*, *Perſia*, and *Armenia*. We ſee how mohair and *Turkey* ſtuffs bear the gloſs of ſilk in ſome dyes; and ſome calicoes and taffanies, and new ſtuffs, make us doubtful, whether they are of ſilk, or cotton, or whence the materials. And the furs not only of beavers, but of rabbits, and of many vermin, but chiefly of the black fox, do claim a precedence before ſome ſilk. The beaver is fit not only for hats, but for gloves and other garments, eſpecially looſe garments. How far other down of fowls, and of vegetables, and feathers, may by art be brought into uſe, who can foreſee? But now we have gone a wool-gathering.

THAT we may weigh what *Engliſh* countries were fitteſt to try the ways of improving wool to a ſilken fineneſs, I can only give account of *Herefordſhire* wool, and chiefly there of the wool of *Lemſter's-oar*, and *Urchinfield*, by which all that pretend to fineſt wool may compare their own. That which deſerves properly the name of *Lemſter's-oar*, is ſold commonly about thirty ſhillings, ſometimes thirty-two ſhillings the ſtone, which weighs twelve pound of ſixteen ounces to the pound: the beſt of *Urchinfield* not frequently above twenty-ſix ſhillings the ſtone. The common wool of other parts of *Herefordſhire*, about twenty ſhillings the ſtone. And the wool that fails there of that rate, we call coarſe wool, or *Welſh* wool. Though yearly the price may alter ſomewhat, yet this for many late years hath been the proportion: and being our ſtaple commodity, we may the ſafer fix a rate, but I have not the ſkill to proportion it with the rates of wool in other countries, which had been a clearer guide in this queſtion.

I KNOW, that wool and ſilk do altogether differ in kind; but wool is a curled fur, or curled ſilk; and herein I ſend a lock, which I did cut from a negroe's head, to ſhew how like it is to our black ſheeps wool in *Herefordſhire*.

THUS our fine wooled ſheep, though they be natives, and *Engliſh*, not of the *Greek* kind, yet they require ſome of the ſame tender care; but not ſo much curioſity.

Whence

Whence I infer, that it may be of ſome avail to make known to our beſt and moſt curious huſbands in *England*, the great diligence and induſtry, which *Italians* uſed to preſerve ſheep, which bore the fineſt wool.

COLUMELLA's firſt words are a kind of diſcouragement, *Græcum pecus, niſi cum domini præſentia eſt, vix expedit haberi; ſiquidem & curam & cibum majorem deſiderat. Nam cum ſit univerſum genus lanigerum cæteris pecudibus mollius tum ex omnibus Tarentinum eſt molliſſimum, quod nullam domini aut magiſtrorum inertiam ſuſtinet, multoque minus avaritiam; nec æſtus nec frigoris patiens.* But for this we have a ſatisfying anſwer, that *England* is full of wealthy farmers; and in the countries, which bear fineſt wool, generally all farmers and maſters do over-look their own flocks, or both their ſhepherds and flocks; and many do live at a higher rate, than to meaſure all things by profit. Some expence and diligence is ſacrificed to elegancy and curioſity, with this inſcription; *viderit utilitas.*

Raro foris, plerumque domi alitur, & eſt cibi avidiſſimum, cui ſi detrahitur fraude villici, clades ſequitur gregem. There is little danger of this amongſt us, but the contrary. For our farmers do hold by another tenure, than their ſlaves and villains. Our farmers are the true owners of the flock; and ſuch as have the ſpecial charge of the ſheep, are more apt to rob their maſter's barns for too much and too coſtly grain, than to defraud the ſheep.

FOR their allowance in food, I may ſave the labour of tranſlating it, for I doubt I ſhall find few diſciples. *Singula capita per hyemem rectè paſcuntur ad præſe piatribus ordei, vel freſſæ cum ſuis valvulis fabæ, aut cicerculæ quatuor ſextariis, ita ut & aridam frondem præbeat, aut ſiccam vel viridem medicum cytiſumve, tum etiam cordi fœni ſeptena pondo, aut leguminum paleas affatim.*

THEY muſt not think of fatting lambs of this race for the butcher, nor of milk for the dairy; and when any lamb is weaned or fold, or miſcarries, the ewe may join to help to give milk to ſome other lambs, which thereby ſucks of both. *Minimus agnis vendundis in hac pecude, nec ullus lactis reditus haberi poteſt: nam & qui ſummoveri debent, pauciſſimos poſt dies quam editi ſunt, immaturi fere mactantur; orbæque natis ſuis matres alienæ ſoboli præbent ubera: quippe ſinguli agni binis nutricibus ſummittuntur, nec quicquam ſubtrahi ſubmiſſis expedit, quo ſaturior lactis agnus celeriter confirmetur, & parta nutrici conſociata minus laboret in educatione fœtus ſui: quam ob cauſam diligenti cura ſervandum eſt, ut & ſuis quotidie matribus, & alienis non amantibus agni ſubſumentur.* We are not often wanting in any of theſe points.

HE adviſeth to rear, or breed up more males for theſe, than for coarſer flocks, with this peculiar reaſon, becauſe the rams are gelt for weathers, and ſent to the ſlaughter-houſe, about two years old, and their fleeces ſold at higheſt price, as bearing the fineſt wool. *Plures autem in ejuſmodi gregibus, quam in hirtis maſculos enutrire oportet; nam prius quam fœminas inire poſſint mares caſtrati, cum bimatum expleverint, enecantur; & pelles eorum propter pulchritudinem lanæ majore pretio quam alia vellera mercantibus traduntur.* And thus we prefer weathers, both for the fleſh, and for the fleece.

BUT now follows a cluſter of curioſities; how to make the fleece grow finer, and alſo more abundantly. *Nam ſæpius detergenda, & refrigeranda eſt; ſæpius ejus lana diducenda, vinoque & oleo inſuccanda: nonnunquam etiam tota eſt eluenda, ſi diei permittit apricitas: idque ter anno fieri ſat eſt; ſtabula vero frequenter everrenda, & purganda, humorque omnis urinæ divertendus eſt, qui commodiſſimè ſiccatur perforatis tabulis, quibus ovilia conſternuntur, ut grex ſupercubet, nec tantum cœno at ſtercore, ſed exitioſis quoque ſerpentibus tecta liberentur.* This puts me in mind of the diligence, which ſome of our gentry do uſe for their cocks, hawks, dogs, and horſes. He requires the like care for theſe ſilken ſheep, that they be often rubbed, and refreſhed, and (their wool being divided)

dreſſed

dreſſed with wine, and oil ſoaked in, ſometimes waſhed (which ſhould be done thrice in the year) the ſtable or cotes kept very clean; the urine always drained away at holes in the planks underneath; no dung left there, nor harbour for ſerpents.

YEA, and their houſes oft-times perfumed alſo to expel ſerpents, as he directs in the ſtile and joint authority of *Virgil.*

Diſce & odoratam ſtabulis incendere cedrum,
Galbaneoque agitare graves nidore chelydros:
Sæpe ſub immotis præſepibus aut mala tactu
Vipera delituit, cœlumque exterrita fugit,
Aut tecto aſſuetus coluber.

INSTEAD of the ſmoke of cedar, we in *England* may uſe juniper, which in ſome barren lands ſuperabounds; or, in want of that, *Col.* recommends burnt hair, or burnt horn.

HE preſcribes a medicament, wherewith to anoint new ſhorn ſheep for increaſe of wool, and the fineneſs of it. The decoction of lupines, with the lees of wine and dregs of oil, and after four days to plunge them in ſea-water, or (if that cannot be had) in rain-water, in which brine is decocted. *Hoc modo curatum pecus anno ſcabrum fieri non poſſe Celſus affirmat; nec dubium eſt, quin etiam ob eam rem lana quoque mollior ac prolixior renaſcatur.* This alſo may here be altered for our lees of ale, and ſuch liquor as the kitchen affordeth; and inſtead of lupines, which is not common with us, why not a decoction of beans, or ſome other grain?

AFTER all this care for the ſofteſt ſheep, and fineſt wooll, I muſt vouch *Virgil*'s authority, that the ſtinking goat yields as much of the ſweet gain as any ſheep, and then *dulcis odor lucri.*

Hæc quoque non cura nobis leviore tuenda,
Nec minor uſus erit, quamvis Mileſia magno
Vellera mutentur, Tyrios incocta rubores.
Denſior hinc ſoboles, hinc largi copia lactis:
Quam magis exhauſto ſpumaverit ubere mulctra,
Læta magis preſſis ſpumabunt flumina mammis:
Nec minus interea barbas, incanaque menta, &c.

WE ſee, that reddle makes the wool grow finer, and reddle being cheap with us, many do reddle the ſheep all over, and repeat it often.

Of Goats.

To a very ſkilful farmer I deplored his ſad condition, that his lands were all under the curſe of thorns, briers, and brambles, barren clifts, and rocky hills; not a ſhred of cow-paſture, and the fields ſo light, ſtony, and ſandy, as to refuſe or burn out the heart of wheat, peaſe, *&c.* He anſwered, that (beſides the unknown treaſures, which he hoped lay under that diſheartening turf) he found a relief from it beyond the belief of beholders. For his light and ſandy land bore turnips, potatoes, and other bulbous roots, as well for food, as for ornament; for odoriferous vegetables, and beauties, that this light land was kinder than the ſtrongeſt land in the vale. That his wife or his boy could with eaſe turn up the ground with a hand-plough, or pare off the turf of one piece of ground to redouble the ſtrength of another. That his furzy ground (being torn up) would yield fuel to repay the workmen, and ſome kinds of corn for ſome years, and afterwards (being ſown with the ſeed of the largeſt *French* furze) would

would ſuddenly become a wood, as rich as any coppice-wood, and the proverb ſecures for the moſt parts of *England*, that an acre of coppice-wood is as good as an acre of wheat land, if not much better.

To this I replied, But where is the ox-paſture to maintain the plough? or where the cow-paſture, to yield milk, butter, and cheeſe? Where is the timber?

FOR timber, he pointed to groves of free holly (ſo they call holly, that hath no prickles, but one at the point) and this (ſaith he) is ſtout and tough timber. Every leaf is a hearty and juicy food for the cattle. It challengeth the bays, and all other verdant beauties of the garden, by affronting the froſt and ſnow of winter, with her fiery cluſters. If the ground be a while ſevered from the teeth of cattle, we can raiſe theſe groves faſter, and frame it into ſtronger fences and hedges, than of any other ſhrub. And now for cow-paſture (ſaith he) here is richer paſture, and richer ware, than that vale does yield, pointing at a ragged, buſhy, rocky hill, where a herd of goats grazed.

I WISHED that there were a ſevere law for the exterminating of thoſe beaſts of poiſonous breath and teeth from all parts of the land, where a quickſet-hedge could grow. To this wiſh he conſented heartily, but ſaid in good earneſt, that to him they ſeemed a richer cattle than cows. For cows required flowery clover by the river banks all the ſummer, warm houſes, good fodder, and coſtly attendance all winter. Whereas goats thrive beſt in a buſhy ground, that would unfleece the ſheep, and yield no graſs for larger cattle, and the winter cold they can bear with little charge of relief or attendance. And better they deſerve a park pale, than the nobleman's deer, or coney. But are then moſt profitable, when a poor boy may keep them in herds on the rocks, mountains, and wild or waſte lands, for the relief of the neighbouring poor. And many ſuch waſte lands there are in *England*, *Wales*, and *Scotland*. From whence by theſe herds more Chriſtians may be cheriſhed to ſerve God, and (as we ſay in *England*) the king may increaſe the number of his ſubjects. And it is the main point of agriculture, that we ſort every ſoil to the beſt benefit; and he is the beſt republican, who deviſeth ſuſtenance for the multitude, and raiſeth the moſt profit from the worſt land.

OF old, indeed, *Romans*, in their wealthy *Italy*, had ſuch eſteem of the profit of theſe herds, that *Varro* tells us of a *Roman* knight, who in his days was allured (by the ſweet gain, which he found by a ſmall herd) to advance to a thouſand in the herd, lib. ii. c. 3. *Is (viz. Gaberius Eques Romanus) cum in ſuburbano mille jugerum haberet, & à caprario quodam, qui adduxit capellas ad urbem decem, ſibi indies ſingulos denarios ſingulos dare audiſſet, coegit mille caprarum, ſperans ſe capturum de prædio indies ſingulos denarium mille.* What this denarius would value of our money, we ſhall not eaſily gueſs. For though our monetary critics do render it ſeven-pence halfpenny, yet who can ſay, how near that may amount to one, two, or three ſhillings, if he conſiders how much a penny or ſhilling of *Engliſh* money hath altered in three hundred years, and the like of foreign alteration?

AND although *Gaberius* had no good ſucceſs in his exceſſive covetouſneſs, yet we ſee, how much the poor may be (and yet many more might be) relieved with their ſmall herds, which would be a ſmall taſk for ſuch as do want employment; and he that keeps thoſe herds from wandering, or doing annoyance, may uſe his knitting-pins; (which alone ſuſtains moſt of the people, male and female) men, women, and children, in *Parſhore*, a town in *Worceſterſhire*, and may addict to many other manufactures. However, this ſhall encourage me to ſelect from the old *Roman* huſbandmen a few rules of directions, concerning them. And this is their firſt praiſe, that a few and ſimple directions will be ſufficient.

VARRO,

VARRO, by his own choice, prefers a male goat for every ten females. *Alii ad denas capras ſingulos parent hircos, ut ego: alii etiam ad* XV. *ut Menas: nonnulli etiam ad viginti.*

FOR a herd, he adviſeth to confine towards the number of fifty, or, as he ſaith, *in Sallentinis, & in Caſinati ad centenas paſcunt.* I conceive the greater number of them cannot be ſo dangerous, or ſo inclinable to infections in *England*, as in thoſe hot countries, where they are never free from a fever. *Capras ſanas ſanus nemo promittit, nunquam enim ſine febre ſunt.* I know many herds, and the pooreſt do adventure for them, and I never heard them complain of their loſs by fevers, or contagion. *Quid dicam de earum ſanitate, quæ nunquam ſunt ſanæ? niſi tamen illud unum, quædam ſcripta habere magiſtros pecoris, quibus remediis utuntur ad morbos quoſdam earum, ac vulneratum corpus (quod uſu venit iis ſæpe) quod inter ſe cornibus pugnant, atque in ſpinoſis locis paſcuntur.* However the rule is good, that we rather get many herds, than great herds, which are apt to beget the peſtilence. *Itaque greges plures potius faciunt, quam magnos, quod in magnis cito exiſtat peſtilentia ibidem.*

DR. *Moffet*, a rare and excellent phyſician, comparing the ſeveral milks, ſays, that for ſome, aſſes milk is beſt, for others cows milk, for ſome goats milk, becauſe the one cleanſeth, the other looſens, and the third ſtrengthens more than the reſt. Goats milk is better for weak ſtomachs, becauſe they feed on boughs more than graſs. Sheeps milk is thicker, ſweeter and more nouriſhing, yet leſs agreeable to the ſtomach, becauſe it is fatter. Hence I collect, that ſheeps milk being fatter than cows milk, and goats milk finer, they may well be contempered together. And twenty ewes and ten ſhe goats would be a good ſuſtenance, and make a dairy for a cottager, or poor farmer. And ſome ſuch mixture ſeems requiſite, ſince goat's of itſelf is apt to beget the louſy diſeaſe, as Dr. *Moffet* exemplifies in the ſad example of the lady *Penruddock*, p. 125.

MOFFET prefers the fleſh of black and red kids before the white, and the kid to be of eaſy digeſtion, of excellent nouriſhment, and reſtorative after great ſickneſs; better roaſted, than ſod; and hinder parts better than fore parts, and beſt under ſix weeks age. A gelded goat is next to the kid, but ſhould be baited, or hunted, then blooded, and when dead, the fleſh muſt be beaten in the ſkin, after the *French* manner of beating a cow, (ſaith *Moffet* more eſpecially of the old he goat and ſhe goat) and then ſeaſoned with ſalt and pepper, and baked, it makes a luſty kind of baſtard veniſon for the hard labourer.

VAR. l. ii. c. 11. finds good uſe for goats hair for navies, for warlike engines, for veſſels. *Capra pilos miniſtrat ad uſum nauticem, ad bellica tormenta, & ad fabrilia vaſa.* We in our days have amplified the uſe of worſe hair for hats and other garments, as alſo for bed coverlets.

COLUMELLA, lib. vii. c. 6. confirms the former, by recommending them to ſhrubby, buſhy, and thorny wild grounds. *Nam nec rubos averſatur, nec vepribus offenditur, & arbuſculis, fruteliſque maxime gaudet; ea ſunt arbutus atque alaternus cytiſuſque agreſtis, nec minus ilignei querneique frutices, qui in altitudinem non proſiliunt.* Becauſe this wilderneſs is ſo kind for goats, it is not amiſs to advertiſe of the ancient diligence, which planted cytiſus; and it is now more eaſy by our hand plough to tear up ſome furrows, and ſow them with hips, haws, ripe holly berries, acorns, aſhkeys, and bramble berries, and to ſave them from cattle, till they are got up a little. To increaſe their milk, *ſuper lactis abundantiam ſamera, vel cytiſus, vel hedera prædenda, vel etiam cacumina lentiſci, aliæque tenues frondes ſunt objiciendæ.*

THE ſkins of kids and goats do grow every day more precious, as we do grow in our ſkill of dreſſing them, and colouring them.

COLL.

COLL. l. vii. c. 7. gives this general rule for medical, that as ſoon as one falls down of the peſtilence, or murrain, all ſhould be blooded. Nor they ſuffered to feed all day, but reſtrained four hours of mid-day.

IF other diſeaſe invade them, *ſi alius languor infeſtat, pabulo medicantur arundinis, & albæ ſpinæ radicibus, quas cum ferreis pilis diligenter contuderimus, admiſcemus aquam pluvialem, ſolamque parandam pecori præbemus.*

FOR the dropſy, *ſub armo pellis leviter inciſa pernicioſum tranſmittat humorem; tum factum vulnus pice liquida curetur, ibid.*

IF the female be troubled with the bearing or after-birth, a draught of good ale, cyder, or wine, will do good, *defruti ſextarius, vel cum id defuerit, boni vini tandundem faucibus infundatur, & naturalia cerato liquido repleantur, ibid.*

IF nothing elſe will, the butcher's knife cures all their diſeaſes, and is then beſt in ſeaſon, when the fleſh, fat, and ſkin are ſaved.

VAR. l. ii. c. 3. *Capræ à carpendo nominatæ. Horum enim dentes inimici ſationis, quas etiam aſtrologi ita receperunt in cœlum, ut extra limbum 12 ſignorum excluſerint.* And ſo ſhould we exclude them from all woods, groves, or hedges, that are worthy our care. For as well holy prophets, as heathen poets do juſtly reſemble them to devils, as proper for the vale of miſery, and land accurſed.

Experiments moſt part medical or chirurgical, Nov. 9, 1663.

ABOUT ſeven years ago, as I ſat at dinner, and drank in a ſilver tankard, I felt ſomewhat like a flie's rough claws faſtened in the paſſage of my throat. Suddenly I caught away the tankard, and ſtrained my breath with my utmoſt ſtrength and ſpeed, and therewith did blow out a great ſpider, which ran on the table before the eyes of all that ſat there. This was in a well ordered family of careful and cleanly people; yet this fell out like an advertiſement to prefer clear glaſſes, before goblets of gold or plates of ſilver. And health and life is concerned in ſuch circumſtantial deliverances, as much as in medicine, or chirurgery. And I think this land and climate does not breed ſtronger or quicker poiſon in any vegetable, animal, ſerpent, or inſectile, than in the ſpider, though I have heard of ſome men, that can eat and digeſt ſpiders: and I have ſeen young turkeys eat them for an antidote, and particularly when ſtrawberries, (either in kind, or in quantity, as cauſing a ſurfeit) was their poiſon, and had killed many that had not eaten ſpiders. But I muſt never record this deliverance without the ſacrifice of my heart in praiſes to the ſupreme Lord and governor of the world, whoſe influence gives life, motion, and activity to every creature, and very peculiarly to ſuch as acknowledge his ſuperintendance, abſolute dominion, and inexhauſtible goodneſs; to ſuch moſt eſpecially in the hour of need.

A GENTLEMAN of great parts obſerved to me the preſentneſs of ſpirit, and rationable conduct, that ſome have more than others in ſurpriſing diſtreſſes. He ſaw a man thrown off a great horſe, his head falling under the horſe's fore feet, and the hoof pitching upon one of his eyes. The man's hand was ready to defend his face (which is a natural motion) and perceiving the horſe's hoof coming juſt in his eye, with a vigorous thruſt of his hand, he turned the hoof aſide, and ſo ſaved his face. I have ſeen very many eſcapes by quick and unexpected activity; and many ſore miſchances by notorious dulneſs and negligence. I ſaw a proper youth (his legs ſliding from under him in a ſhelving deſcent at the head of a pond) ſuffer himſelf to be tumbled headlong into the pond in very great danger. An old man ſtood by me, and both of us with much wonder noted, that he made no renitence with hand or foot, or other part of his body. For which ſtupidity the old man gave him afterwards ſuch impreſſive reprehenſions, as might add laſting metal to his ſpirit. And I ſaw a goodly perſon,

of very great fame for his valour and ſtrength, caught by his foot in the ſtirrup at a latchet-pin in a park gate (all made very ſtrong) and the horſe in a gird of ſpeed ſo diſtended, that we all expected he ſhould be torn to pieces. It was his mere negligence to be thus involved; and he had no other remedy, but by a quick activity to caſt himſelf behind the ſaddle, and off the horſe. And (as I noted before of vomiting) there are more points of activity do belong to man's ſafety and credit, than thoſe which conſiſt in leaping, running, and fencing, *&c.* And the promptneſs of ſpirit is for general uſes better than a dexterity in athletic exerciſes. But above all it is ſafeſt to make our frequent and conſtant refuge to the altar of God, who makes his angels miniſtring ſpirits for our good. And this is the catholic and univerſal medicine.

IT is not civil language in theſe days to ſay, that the maniacal, lunatic, epileptical, eceſtatic, or convulſive, are poſſeſſed with devils, or unclean ſpirits; yet judicious *Mede* hath proved the holy ſcriptures ſometimes to uſe that language indifferently, as *termini convertibiles*; and ſome very learned perſons of late are engaged to make all theſe ſymptoms merely natural, others ſtrain all their operations to be ſupernatural, divine, and forſooth prophetical. But of this we may take good notice, that in all ages of the remoteſt antiquity (not only amongſt God's people, *Abrahamites*, *Iſraelites*, *Jews*, and Chriſtians, but alſo among *Egyptians*, *Aſſyrians*, *Greeks*, *Romans*, *Barbarians*, and Savages) in the application of medicine the moſt famous phyſicians did moſt ſolemnly invocate the great name of Jehovah, not only for the cure of theſe peculiar maladies, but generally of other diſeaſes. Of which cuſtom ſomething is collected by *Grotius* in *Matthæum*, Cap. XII. ver. 26. *A dæmonibus ad morbos quoque mos tranſiit.—Ejuſmodi ergo exorciſmi eventum ſæpe ſuum habuerunt, non quod vis ulla in ſyllabarum pronunciatione ſita eſſet, ſed quod verus Deus illis potiſſimum nominibus noſci appellarique vellet, atque ideo vim ſuam tum demum exereret, cum apertiſſima locutione conſtaret ipſum, non aliquem gentilium Deorum, eſſe invocatum.* This he takes to be our Saviour's argument there, and that the true God would bear witneſs to his own name (when he was acknowledged the God of *Abraham*, *Iſaac*, and *Jacob*) all over the world. And that the true God will more truly and effectually hear our prayers to aſſiſt the health of mankind, than ſuch idols, devils, and unknown genii, as were worſhipped by ſavages, we may juſtly confide. Of exorciſms I muſt not interpoſe any judgment of mine own, but I refer the intelligent to the argument, as it is handled by the learned and judicious Dr. *Field on the Church*, where the judgment and practice of the primitive church is recited with the joint teſtimony of all the holy Fathers of beſt ages. And ſomewhat we may find amongſt our Canons and Conſtitutions eccleſiaſtical, *Engliſh* 72. (where in old prints I have read the word exorciſe, in later prints exerciſe) in concurrence with the proteſtant churches, which follow the *Auguſtane* confeſſion. And *Grotius* tells us in *Mar.* xvi. 17. that old miracles are not in theſe days exterminated, if our faith were not firſt exterminated. *Sed nos, cujus rei culpa eſt in noſtrâ ignaviâ aut diffidentiâ, id ſolemus in Deum rejicere; ſunt autem* ἀμετομέλητα τὰ Θεοῦ δῶρα. But to forbear the high language of exorciſms, and of miracles, is it to the credit of proteſtants, if *Jews*, *Mahomedans* and *Romaniſts*, do refer more to the efficacy of faith and prayers in deſperate diſeaſes, than they, the reformers, do ordinarily? Do not acute diſeaſes oft-times lie in ſuch diſguiſes, as may need more of divine than of human conduct, more of the happineſs than of the art or force of the phyſician, chirurgeon, or application: and we ſee how the critical ſtate may alter in a moment; and that may now be an antidote, which, within an hour before or after, might be furious poiſon. And we have many inſtances, which do import, that in our days ſome have the gift of healing, though perchance not in the ſame vigour as in the apoſtolical age. *Reſponderi poteſt, non quidem tam frequentia & conſpicua eſſe, quam olim fuere dona ſanationum: attamen Deum nunc quoque piis, quorum ſaluti id expedire judicat, ſæpe morbos auferre, aut mitigare:* ſaith *Grot. in*

in Annot. ad Cassand. De unctione infirmorum. And is it not more of mercy and charity, to offer somewhat of the good *Samaritan*'s oil (as St. *James* directeth, ch. v. 14.) and at least to solicit εὐθανασίαν, than to fly the field, and to forsake the patient in his greatest exigence, as it is the manner of some physicians, lest they should lose the reputation of doing more than they can do, or ought to be done in this vale of mortality.

A GENTLEWOMAN of rare beauty lost all her fair roses and complexion by consumptive coughs, rheums, and green-sicknesses. For remedy she followed the famous physicians of *London*, and thereabout, some years in vain. I persuaded her to take, as hot as she could well drink it every morning, a full draught of the decoction of centaury boiled in beer or ale, and to walk after it: she did it heartily for a fortnight or more, recovered her roses, was married, hath children, and continues in health these fourteen years since, this being her only medicine at the first, and in all relapses.

THE blood is purged, and melancholy abated by a like infusion of fumiterræ, either warm or cold, as soon as the plant appears in spring. The head freed from vapours by wild betony; and sage-ale is proper for the aged, when subject to rheumatic defluxions from the brain. Balm-ale a cordial; and the like I could experimentally affirm of several vegetables very effectual against long radicated maladies, by a constant use of them infused in our ordinary drink. And a palate hardened to bear the hop and tobacco may as easily endure any other horrid gust, of which kind I account centaury the most intolerable: in comparison of which, wormwood is pleasant, and by use becomes more agreeable than the hop or olive, as appears by the testimony and practice of many of the gentry in *Hereford*, and *Herefordshire*, who do generally prefer the wormwood beer of *Trebern* the girdler, before other best ale or beer, although their palates are much accustomed to a very pleasant winy cyder. Of these vegetables I said as much before, but in this I chiefly intended this note, that in the late times of war and heavy payments, many, whose livers by grief and discontent became very weak and tainted, and many scorbutically affected, were healed and recovered by the use of this wormwood beer. And it is somewhat considerable to find such store of medicine, as may heal the epidemical diseases for all the town and country, without charge upon physicians and apothecaries, if they can forgive this fault. And, if we had a medicine, that would heal a rot in sheep, what is it worth if it be so costly, or so scarce, that it may not or cannot be applied to the infected flock?

I HAVE known more than one excellent physician, who conceived, that most of our worst maladies had somewhat of scorbutical malignity, and did frequently apply something anti-scorbutical. For their sakes, that are of this opinion, or for them rather that are afflicted with this malady, this experiment I offer, as thoroughly and often tried, that when all other medicines of current note failed to cure the scurvy, a draught now and then of the juice of oisters taken out of the shells, after they were stewed, and a cup of wine after it, speeded the cure. This took up my wonder, because I found oisters irritate the malady; but the flesh of the viper rebateth the poison of the viper. Such as are afraid of chalybeat medicines, vitriol, and *Matthews*'s universal pill, or do loath the scurvy-grass, may perchance find their palate pleased at this news, and allow themselves the variety, and sauce of the juice of oranges added to it.

HOLY thistle decocted in clear posset-drink was heretofore much used at the beginnings of agues, fevers, unknown diseases, and especially if there be any suspicion of poison or infection; and *Alexis* of *Piedmont* so highly extols it, as if it were an universal medicine. It inclines to a gentle sweat, or perspiration, and purgeth by urine, answering to the signature (as generally thistles do) as if the prickets opened all the pores to emit the obnoxious humour; and this in my experience I have ever found to be the

friendlieſt way of evacuation (as before I noted in *Matthews*'s pills.) And again about five years ago, the holy thiſtle recovered the former reputation, when agues and fevers were epidemical and obſtinate, and of more than ordinary malignity. By this and other like changeable valuations of medicines, it ſeems, that we follow the faſhion, as well for choice of medicines, as for the ſhape of hats and breeches.

I COULD not gueſs, why ground-ivy (called in old *Engliſh* tudmore) ſhould now be called ale-hoof. But I hear it ſerves ſome ale-wives to out-run the exciſe-peeper in clarifying their new ale, as ſoon as it is brewed, in one night, and ſettles diſturbed drink, and gives no offenſive reliſh to hinder the ſale; and then it is one of the general friends of nature, which evacuateth (by urine) rheums, poiſon, and vapours, that offend the head, ears, and eyes, *&c.* And however the hop carries the bell at this time, yet the friendſhip of burnet, angelica, and of lilies of the vale, is beſt known in white and *Rheniſh* wine, *&c.* And it is needful an ingredient ſhould be generally friendly, before it be entertained epidemically in our daily diet.

WHEN I was an *Eton* ſcholar, I fell very ſick. Our ſchoolmaſter Mr. *Buſt* ſent Dr. *Hector* to me; he tells me, I muſt be let blood, and take a vomit: I deſired gentler handling, for that I had never tried either of thoſe remedies. The doctor draws out his money, and tells me I muſt have a double fee for teaching him his art; but (ſaith he) the ſchoolmaſter ſent me to give you phyſic, and not to receive your inſtructions. But I held my reſolution to adventure upon an unknown malady, rather than upon two ſuch violent remedies. Within three days it appeared a tertian ague, which by regular diet, gentle ſweats, and ſome patience in reſiſting the fits, with walking in the time of the viſit, was ſubdued within three weeks. And as long as we have ſtrength to make any ſuch reſiſtance, I ſhould prefer that method in agues before any violent repercuſſions, though it were by the famous *febrifuga* called Jeſuit's bark: but in the concernment of agues, I account him happy, that can with moſt eaſe, and thoroughly diſcharge his ſtomach.

AT *Orleans* in *France* I fell extreme ſick in a high burning fever, which ſurely was peſtilential, and ſo our phyſician told us; and three of us *Engliſh* fell ſick together in one houſe, as infecting one another. Monſieur *Du Cheſne* was our phyſician, and indeed ſhewed us the office of a ſkilful, careful, and honeſt phyſician. He viſited all of us, as we fell ſick in order, twice or thrice every day; ſaw the vein opened, or gently breathed (a little at a time) and no oftener than needful. He aſked each of us, whether we ever loſt blood before; and we anſwering no, he cheared us with ſome confidence under God's mercy of our recovery. By which received rule, it ſeems good not to be prodigal of blood without urgent cauſe. He overlooked our diet, allowing nothing but *French* barley broth, and ptiſan during the effervеſcence of the fever. Was always preſent when any potion was given. Took great care for our reſt and quietneſs by the ſilence of the houſe, and all attendants; forbad viſits. After all his care, he would receive but a ſmall ſum. For myſelf, I could not faſten on him any reward. He accepted of ſome poor trifling ſcribbles, as if they had been a reward. And the like kindneſs I have received from Dr. *Smith* of *Shrewſbury*, and from Dr. *Harford* of *Hereford*. Yet from my heart I can plead in the behalf of ſuch careful, honeſt, and ſkilful phyſicians, that no honour nor reward that this world can yield, is a full and ſufficient reward for them. A good magiſtrate gives life to the people, and they by God's bleſſing preſerve the life of magiſtrate and people. But never was there any ſuch cruel and mercileſs tyrant on earth, as is an unſkilful or diſhoneſt phyſician or chirurgeon. To conſume our ſubſtance, and to fill their own purſes, they tear our fleſh, corrode our bones, and torture us in all our parts and vitals for days, weeks, and months together, even whilſt we fly to them for aid, and whilſt they ſmile

in

in our faces with all ſweet promiſes of affectionate care. But it ſo fell out in heaven; a collapſed angel is a devil.

ABOUT the end of *February*, above twenty years ago, as I was riding from *Cambridge* towards the weſt, I fell into ſuch deep and dirty ways in *Wiltſhire*, that I and my horſe were quite tired. With much ado I got to an inn, and to bed I haſtened, where the fever tormented me all night, increaſed all day, and thus for two nights and two days, worſe and worſe. I ſent for the miniſter, and prepared to take leave of this world, for I had no hope to ſurvive, till a phyſician could come thither, if I ſhould ſend for one. And I had no other thoughts, but to end my pain with the end of my days. Some good people of the houſe boiled a handful of currants, of violet and ſtrawberry leaves, each a handful, in a quart of running water, boiling it to a pint, ſtrained it, and adding ſome good quantity of ſugar-candy, gave it me to drink hot. I drank it at a draught, and fell into a ſweat after, and ſoon found my head eaſed, and other kind operations of nature. Two days after I took a gliſter, and ſo by ſoft degrees (after a fortnight's weakneſs) I recovered.

I HAVE always found, that beef is too ſtrong and rank for my ſtudious kind of life; (of pork and bacon I complained before, and it is more offenſive.) At *Eton* college we had no beef but only on *Mondays* at dinner, yet that filled my noſtrils with rank vapours for two days after: at *King's-College* in *Cambridge* we had beef frequently, and that continued ſome puſtles under the corners of my noſtrils, or about my mouth, or chin. Some others, though very temperate, had more inflamed faces from the ſame cauſe, as I conceive; and took much phyſic, ſtill ſuſpecting ſome heats or inflammations of their livers: and thus ſometimes we deſtroy ourſelves by medical enforcements, and by ſtraining at impoſſibilities. For if our ſpirits be vehemently fervid in ſtudies, reading, writing, compoſitions, hot arguments and meditations, it is hardly poſſible, that they ſhould aſſiſt digeſtion, as in ruſtics and day-labourers. We diet cocks for the pit, and horſes for the race; and the old *Romans* beſtowed aſcetical diet, and oils on their fencing ſlaves for the ſtage. Our ſerious ſtudies do better deſerve that care.

IT was reputed of old a point of paſſive valour (an eminent virtue) to ſuffer chirurgery, as occaſion required, ſtoutly. *Epaminondas* and *Marius* were famous for it; and *Jack Ellis*, the cook of *King's-College*, diſdained to be bound, whilſt his leg and knee were ſawed off. But I have heard of a lady, that ſuffered a long tormenting death, rather than the chirurgeons ſhould ſearch her wound, (and ſhe hath ſome praiſe for her reſolved modeſty) and that the truly noble Sir *Philip Sidney* refuſed chirurgery with this ſentence, *Non tanti eſt in hac arena vivere.* And death is ſometimes as welcome as ſweet ſleep to a weary traveller; *Quale ſopor feſſis in gramine.* The return to life by ſome enforcements brings the horror of pain, as the witty lord *Montagne* deſcribes it by his own experience.

I KNEW a gentlewoman of great underſtanding, and very devout, not in much talk and ſingular notions, but in fervent and perpetual prayers and deeds of charity. She lived to a great age, and practiſed medicine and chirurgery to all the neighbourhood, above ſixty years. I never heard her blamed by phyſician, chirurgeon, or patient. For ſhe would always refer the rich (in fit caſes) to the profeſſed artiſt; and was ſo noble, that ſhe rejected all kinds of gratuities. Her conſtant ſucceſsfulneſs begot my belief, that ſhe had an extraordinary gift of healing. And ſurely the late counteſs of *Kent*, and ſome princes and perſons of honour and quality now living, do deſerve from us mortals our beſt laſting monuments, and will receive from God everlaſting rewards for their bounty, charity and care in this kind. For their gifts are better than gold (as our Saviour and his apoſtles, and ſome old prophets, by their obliging examples do

do ſhew) and then ſuch charity will ſurely obtain the greater reward. And it is God's goodneſs to encourage theſe worthies to prevent the cruelties of lucrative and diſhoneſt practitioners.

The conduct of fame, or communication for the advancement of learning, arts, trade, and accommodations of all ſorts, &c.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Nov.* 21, 1663.

IN my laſt I did ſolicit the conduct of literary and accommodable communications. Now I intend to produce an example of the effects and benefits that may be expected from it. Sir *H. Wotton* would ſometimes ſend out all his train of attendants, to try how far we could raiſe ſuch rumours as he directed; and what return we could make of current news, provoking our emulation to prove our wits and capacities by our ſucceſs, allotting our particular walks, ordering what fame we ſhould correct, and giving us the form and ſtile (in ſome variety) of our reports and of our enquiries. We could ſoon find out the chief newſmongers and receivers in *Weſtminſter-hall*, the *Exchanges*, famed ordinaries, taverns, carriers-inns, ſtationers, and concerned relations in courts, inns of courts, ſhops of trade (the barbers and baladry not neglected.)

I THEN ſaw how few men could regulate and create fame, and the dangerous influence of fame, if not regulated to honeſt deſigns. Of itſelf, it flies and gives ſtrength or weakneſs to government, as it were by chance. Being guided, it ſerves to noble ends. He ſaid, it was great *Cecil*'s main engine (far and near) in the moſt public concernments.

I infer, how proper this care may ſometimes be for our purpoſe of obliging accommodations, and in the way of literature. Let me offer an inſtance upon my laſt argument of wool, which I ſent to you by carrier on *Monday* laſt, and by this time hath over-filled your hand, as I fear.

ABOUT eight years ago there was a wager laid by the clothiers of *Worceſter*, that they would make richer and finer cloth of *Herefordſhire* wool, than could be made of *Spaniſh* wool. What the wager was, or who won, or who the adverſaries, I do not know. But an honeſt clothier told me, that the *Worceſter* clothiers joined purſes, art, and rural aid for the victory, and beſtowed ten pounds on ribbands to bind up their cloth; which may ſignify, that they ſpared not coſt and care to win the prize. I wiſh better ſpeed to theſe kinds of emulation (both in our own country, and towards foreigners) than to any cock-fight.

AND ſuch honourable families, as wear the richeſt cloth, may eaſily continue this emulation: for advancing the wool I have put in my mite in the forementioned diſcourſe, both from the old and new aids; and that will encourage the improvement of drapery; and that again the dyer's art. And he that would bear on his back the teſtimony of his good ſucceſs, or happy choice, muſt buy the uncoloured cloth in one place, and the beſt dye in another, where either is more excellent.

I REMEMBER, when I was a young ſcholar in *Worceſter*, I noted the clothiers generally to remark what gentry wore cloth; and them they reputed patriots and *Engliſhmen:* which ſeemed to exclude the ſilken gentry from that eſtimation. I do not join in their opinion; for the king's cuſtoms being advanced, and commerce encouraged, by the ſilken courtiers, it is another luſtre to the nation: yet the coldneſs and moiſture of our climate, at leaſt winter's rage, and the old formalities of honour and quality in our peers, and princes, judges, and all lawyers, citizens, and heretofore of our academicans, agree with our ſtaple intereſt in ſheep and wool. And yearly to beſpeak ſome of the beſt cloth that *Worceſter*, or other clothing towns can make, begetteth fame, emulation,

emulation, art and induſtry. And then a treatiſe of any helpful directions, becomes acceptable and ſpreading. And this will excuſe the vanity of coſtly garments in the ſight of God, and good men. And this is more than a ſhort blaſt of fame. This is exemplary, and like our Saviour's ſermon of humility, when enlivened with the fit emblem of a child placed in the midſt of company. This will encourage ſome to take care for the fineſt wool, ſome for the moſt perfect drapery, ſome for the dyer's ſkill; and will (by competition) ſolicit manufacture; in which we did once excel, but do now yield to other foreign nations.

I WOULD yet particulariſe, that we have ſtore of horſes from *Barbary*, *Spaniſh* genets, courſers of *Naples*, *Flemiſh* mares: and why none of thoſe covered ſheep, tranſported from *Greece*, *Sicily*, or other parts of *Italy* or *Spain*, and wherever this fineſt wool is to be found? What more eaſily tranſported than rams, whoſe ſoundeſt food may be carried with them, and whoſe beſt medicine is the ſea-water? And a few rams may alter a flock of ſheep. I have heard of rams bought by wealthy perſons to enlarge their ſheep, of four pounds, yea of ten pounds price; but I have not yet heard of any very high price, or any extraordinary care for to purchaſe the rams of fineſt wool. Hence, in behalf of trade in general, and of our ruſtical intereſt, and alſo of our ſtaple commodity, which is of no ſmall concernment to *England*, I would humbly propoſe two enquiries to the Royal Society: 1. Whence, or how, might we get rams of the fineſt wool in the world? 2. By what application might the wool be moſt effectually improved in fineneſs? In my ſlight papers, I recited out of *Col. l.* vii. *c.* 4. a mixture of decoction of lupines, with old wines, and lees of oil, wherewith their bodies ſhould be anointed, as ſoon as ſheared; and after three days plunged in ſea-water, or bathed in brine (and in *Herefordſhire* we ſay, reddle mingled with liquor, and the ſheep twice or thrice in the year therewith anointed) *ob eam rem lana quoque mollior, atque prolixior renaſcatur*. But to the main point, what kind of liquor, whether gooſe-greaſe, which beſt helps the ſpinners; or badgers-greaſe, which beſt helps the dyer, but begets moths, if not by ſome way of antidote perfectly waſhed; or whether train-oil, or whether any other mixture of the green of hemlock, or white hellebore (both in ſome caſes recommended for ſheep by *Columella*) whether of theſe, or what elſe more effectual, I refer to better enquiry.

AND further I would humbly move, that in all our undertakings in the Royal Society, we ſhould do the like. Each member, in his proper capacity, ſhould, at certain times, propoſe how any art, ſcience, trade, or manufacture, might be improved, reſtored, or revived: what old books are fit to be reprinted, what new to be extracted, or advanced: what means to engage the fitteſt preſſes. Some things I know we ſhould manage in ſecret; ſome on the houſe-top: and ſometimes the dial is viſible, when the ſpring is covered and caſed. And thus (with your favour) as a few chief perſons preſcribe the faſhion to the court, and the court to the gentry and kingdom, which is the viſible dial; ſo by a like countenance of unexpenſive commands to the chief town of trade, the *Engliſh* manufacture may be encouraged, and yet the deſign ſcarcely diſcerned. And the honeſty of ſuch a deſign, which brings work and relief to ſo many poor, will heal the tranſgreſſion of luxury, and convert our coſtly raiments into a public bleſſing. And herein alſo we may act our parts in purifying the ſtreams of literature, and in diſtributing light of the beſt value.

SIR, to explain and confirm all this in a concluding word: if others would endeavour for mathematics, ſome for ruſtical affairs (and that had been my element, if I had been my own man) ſome for artifices, and ſo in all other things, as you have been pleaſed to contribute towards chemiſtry, medicine, and the other great and ſecret works of nature, we ſhould ſoon accompliſh beyond the *Verulamian* vote, and

do

do things worthy of the Royal Society. But I perſevere in overcharging you with too many troubles.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt humble, and moſt affectionate ſervant,

BEALE.

SIR, that of late my pen hath cumbered you with many repetitions, I could excuſe it by my ſpeed and buſineſs, which allows me no ſecond thoughts, nor copies, nor ſo much as an engagement of my memory; but I may ſay, that the beſt of poets and orators, and the moſt inſpired oracles, do condeſcend to ſuch inculcations. And my lord *Bacon*, in his few works, hath given us the ſame precedent oft-times. This I hope you will pardon in buſineſſes, which require importunity.

THESE with my humble ſervice, and entreating the conveyance of the annexed alſo.

Honourable Sir, *Yeovell, Dec.* 14, 1663.

NO man did ever ſo much moleſt you with the vileſt trifles, as if I made it my ſtudy to find out what are the moſt vulgar matters. In very truth I do ſo. And yet I do boaſt theſe trifles ſo highly, as if they were the moſt proper and the moſt expedient ballaſt for the invincible ſhip of the Royal Society, that ſuch owls as cannot behold the day-light of your microſcopical, magnetical, chemical, and mathematical diſcoveries, may taſte the benefit of your condeſcenſions in georgical and ruſtical affairs.

AND I have a zeal, that no man's pen may rob the Royal Society of this glory. And I hear, that many perſons of eminent honour amongſt you have afforded your countenances in it; the honourable *Charles Howard*, yourſelf, Mr. *Evelyn*, and many others, have vouchſafed your regards to it. And in the annexed waſte ſheet, for gardens, which ſays nothing but *hoc age*, you find it the greateſt improvement of land, the fulleſt reward of huſbandry, the ſpeedieſt return, the ſafeguard againſt dearth, the cleanſer of noiſome towns, and the healer of infectious air. Hence the tables of princes (by an anniverſary, or monthly ſupply) may be ſtored with infinite varieties of delicacies; and hence the poor man's hunger is at cheapeſt rate ſupplied; the artificer's and huſbandman's labour ſtrengthened; and the yeoman's powdered beef and ruſty bacon ſweetened and relieved with healthful ſauces, hard-headed cabbages, and roots, that give more vigour than beef itſelf. Would you try how the fruit of your noble accommodations ſhould appear, the very next ſpring and ſummer, you ſee it is no more but at ſeveral of our meetings to propoſe, where the beſt ſeeds of all kinds may be acquired; what new kinds newly diſcovered, and fit to be recovered; old and new, delicate and healthful. You are ſo many illuſtrious and ſplendid perſons, as are able to give law and mode, faſhion and reputation, to ſuch diet and raiment, as ſhall be moſt for the public behoof. Our nobility was wont to applaud the *Italians*, as the beſt exemplars of elegancy: may we not with good pretences to ſobriety, reduce our carnivorous tables to their patterns of ſalads; or at leaſt to the *French quelques choſes?* And I hope my noble friend Mr. *Evelyn*, whilſt he reads, *Col. lib.* x. *Hortorum quoque te cultus Sylvine docebo*, will catch up ſuch a full inſpiration, as will enforce him upon the argument, and not allow him to diſdain the gods of *Egypt*, onions and chebbolds, and leeks, the princely ſtandard of *Wales*; and (*ne quid praſiſcine ſit dictum*) that he begin with a ſacrifice to the hunger of the common people, before he offers his elyſium at the altar of princes.

AND

AND that would give life and eternity to ſuch a diſcourſe, or book, if ſome day or ſeaſon were anniverſarily deſigned for that peculiar argument, which every year will become freſh by introduction of more foreigners. And to beſpeak the beſt ſeeds, and to appoint where they may be had upon ſure truſt, makes this negociation abſolute and perfect. We have here gardeners, that pay an hundred pounds yearly to workmen; if they ſhould fail of true and right ſeed, it would undo them. Hence they are conſtrained to truſt their own ſeed, though their ground requires change, and moſt plants (if the ſeed be not renewed) do degenerate; of ſo much concernment is ſafe and truſty recommends.

IN the other animal ſheet, I proſecute the benefit of communication, and in few heads, without choice do exemplify, how much the public might be obliged, if ſome perſon, that hath fuller information than I can have, and that hath leiſure to review the ancient, ſhall fit the foreign and old aids, for our preſent occaſions. If the witty thrift of every *Engliſh* county were known, and practiſed in every county, *England* would have another face, much more wealth than now it hath. And it is hard to determine, whether the old aids reſtored would not equal all that can be learned from the foreign parts of the world at this day known.

LET me entreat your patience, that I may fill this paper with an old ſtory. That learned *Roman*, who began the firſt period of his ruſtical diſcourſe with this account of his age, *Annus nonus octogeſimus admonet me, ut ſarcinas colligam ante quam proficiſcar è vita*; he recommends the dance of *Orpheus*, which you find mentioned in the end of the ſheet of poultry. And again lib. iii. c. 17. *De piſcinis*, exemplifies the like obedience of fiſh in fiſh-ponds and lakes, which may be in the ſame grove. *Quos ſacrificanti tibi, Varro, ad tibicinem Græcum veniſſe dicebas, &c.* Here we have *Orpheus in Sylvis, inter Delphinas Arion.* By the experience I made in my childhood, I know how eaſy it is to get an abſolute command over beaſts, birds, and fiſhes; to keep them at what diſtance we pleaſe, or to draw them to any degree of familiarity. I tried it then upon bulls, boars, keen maſtiff-dogs, ferrets, carps, and other inhabitants of water and land for uſe, and for ſportful entertainment. The kindneſs of a lamprey (which is a kind of water ſerpent) was of old famous.

WHEN my brother *T. B.* was ranger of *Wakefield-lodge*, one ſpring there came up from his large fiſh-ponds a hoſt of black frogs, or toads, newly ſtripped out of their tadpole ſkins. They covered all the ground for two furlongs diſtance, and entered into his gardens, and all the rooms of the houſe like the plague of *Egypt*. I perſuaded my brother to buy good ſtore of ducks, and get ſtore of wild ducks eggs hatched for thoſe ponds. He did ſo, and preſerved his gardens, and deſtroyed all theſe ſkippers and crawlers, and was never after moleſted with ſuch an ugly viſit, having improved his ſtock of ducks into a pleaſant and profitable duckoy. Here he had bitterns, herns, moor-cocks, fowls of all ſorts, not quite wild, becauſe he permitted none to moleſt them with gun or other open violence, and almoſt at call by ſome kindneſs of frequent relief. And you ſee the old learned *Varro* was not aſhamed to patroniſe this kind of ruſticity. And my tale is well ended, if it procures another collector of better advertiſements; and that the Royal Society do allow an anniverſary ſeaſon for rural accommodations, and freſh communications. And poſſibly this point of philoſophy, and *Ariſtotle*'s tractates of animals, plants, *&c.* is as conſiderable as his Organon, Phyſics and Metaphyſics, which take up all the ſtudies of our academies. And may not this wild kind of aviary appertain to my honoured Mr. *Evelyn*'s Sylva, as the apiary belongs to the culinary garden? But with all this tedioufneſs I muſt end abruptly, only adding, that if the Royal Society ſhould think fit to allow a ſeaſon

for ruſtical reviews, I conceive the fitteſt time would be in autumn, or ſpring, or both.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt affectionate ſervant,

J. B.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Jan.* 11, 1663.

I SUSPENDED the acknowledgment of your laſt obliging favours, till I could give ſome account of the iſſue of mine own eſſay. With the mixture of water I filled the cane with quickſilver on *Wedneſday* laſt, and did not reverſe it, nor veſſel it, till late on *Saturday*. And then (by a miſchance in the reverſing) I was conſtrained to repleniſh a foot length in the cane, which I did very careleſly at two or three haſty pourings, yet then it reſted near thirty inches, and on *Sunday* morning compleated thirty inches. But then there was a miſling of ſmall rain in the morning, and thick clouds all the afternoon. And it mounted an eighth or ninth higher, after the rain, than in the time of rain; and ſo this morning it ſunk an eighth or ninth in the very time when hard rain fell. By which it ſeems, that the clouds, before the rain fell, lay heavier on the air, and compreſſed it more, than when they were diſſolving, and the air intermingled with the falling rain. But I do, as novices are wont to do, and haſten to a reſult, before the conſtancy of the experiment be confirmed.

I AM very glad you met with that ſtrange phænomenon, that ſuch a ponderous ſubſtance as mercury, in ſuch quantity, ſhould refuſe to deſcend without the compreſſion of a bubble of air, and yield to ſuch a ſmall motion. I may ſuggeſt to you many enquiries; of which there occurs to my mind at preſent *Gilbert*'s apprehenſion, "that "a ponderous body, if elevated above the terreſtrial magnetiſm, would have leſs "propenſion to deſcend. And whether, beſides the want of compulſion from the "bubble, and the obſtruction of air, and terreſtrial ſteams in the orifice, the mer-"cury and all groſs bodies have not inviſible claws, or ſuch ſtrong ſteams in the next "approach of their bodies, as may faſten in the circumjacent pores of the glaſs; and "ſince mercury hath no very briſk tumult of parts, whether each particle may not "ſomewhat (though weakly) adhere to other." We ſee ſmall drops of mercury will adhere on the outſide of the glaſs. And leaf gold will adhere by innumerable particles, and fly up and down in the air, as if it ſought for ſome neighbouring body, which if it meets, it will offer at ſome hold; and the branches of vines, *Roman* beans, and hops, will ſo feelingly ſearch out for ſupportance, as if they had animal perception; theſe for any dry ſtick; and goards and pumpions for a pot of water. As if their effluvia correſponded, and gave notice, where their auxiliaries quartered. But will not water or mercury more eaſily deſcend out of a narrow cane on plain ground, than on a pharos? Or has the cane, and materials of the pharos a more ſtrongly approaching magnetiſm, than will yield to the predominancy of plain ground?

SIR, you have tempted me to this boldneſs; for novices, when they begin to taſte ſomething in philoſophy, cannot govern their appetites. I am not altogether ignorant of my ignorance, but can diſcern, how eaſily I may raiſe queſtions and propoſals upon falſe grounds; yet I pray you allow me a little to wander, as *in itinere ecſtatico*.

LAST autumn I ſaw (near a great buſh of roſes) many very ſmall ſpiders, and they ſeemed to fly in the air, yet had no wings. I had formerly repreſented to Mr. *Pell* the ſpider's mechanical riddle, as it is explicated, and in effigy illuſtrated by *Blancanus* in *Ariſt.* Loc. Math. pag. 212. *Araneorum induſtriæ*. But here to my eye the ſpiders viſibly

viſibly exceeded the conceit and draught of *Blantanus* very much. For theſe ſpiders did ſwim and glide in the air, up and down, as fiſhes do in the water, as eaſily and as ſwiftly up as down. Truly, a nimble youth might more eaſily catch the flying butterflies, than theſe. When my hand ſtruck at them, they fled upwards over my head, ſwifter than ſome flies; and in this ſwift eſcape they ſpringed upwards in guirds, as larks do, and ſeemed to take the ground of their leap from the web, which they did caſt out of their mouths to their feet. And when they ſaw themſelves out of my reach, they would ſometimes fix in the air, as a kite does. And then I thought on a fat bulky fellow, that without motion of hand or foot (by mere extenſion of thoſe ſinews, which are in the main bulk of his body) ſwims and floats on the waters in the bath. A ſpider is one of the beſt mechaniſts amongſt our viſibles; and every animal activity puts me in mind, what air, fire, and other inanimates may do. And in that phænomenon I think as well of the ſpring of mercury, as of air; and all things, as well as ſpiders, ſeem to have webs, and claws, though of ſeveral kinds.

SIR, will you now ſuffer me in this wild voyage to aſk, "whether you have at "*Greſham* tubes of tin, or white iron, of thirty-one feet length, to which are firmly "ſoldered ſtrong glaſs canes of four or five feet length? one fixed, and remarked to "the only uſe of comparing (by ſome tinged water, or other liquor, that would eſcape "freezing) the gravity of the air with the humours of the *Torricellian* mercury." For beſides that (as I gueſs) the degrees of change may at ſome ſtair-caſe, or balcony, be made more viſible; poſſibly it may ſometimes diſagree with the peculiar humours of mercury. Another like tube to examine what kind of liquors will aſcend higheſt, what apparent difference in waters, healing and poiſonous ulcers; in waters, that bear ſoap for the laundreſs, and ſuch as refuſe it; in waters, which corrupt the colour of beef and other meat in boiling, and make them inſipid, and in others of better fame and ſalubrity, ſuch as aſſiſt the brewer, and ſuch as rob him; ſuch as ſerve the dyer for this or that colour; to view by the ſteams, as well as by weight, coherence, and conſiſtence, ſuch waters as are brought freſhly reeking from tepid fountains. Have you capacious glaſſes and exact ſcales fitted to weigh the common air uncompreſſed at ſeaſons, which perplex the *Torricellian* device; and to weigh all liquors? Alſo ſmall glaſs canes of divers ſizes, to try the diverſity of all waters and liquors, in the ſeveral degrees of their fluidity. By theſe and ſuch like aids, which will occur to yourſelf more abundantly, we may find more of the differences and qualities of waters and liquors (and poſſibly ſometimes of air and winds) than are diſcoverable by the thermometer, *Torricellian* mercury, or the pneumatic glaſs; and knowledge of water and ſubterraneous veins, by which they are conveyed, may to vulgar hands be more popular, and have more obliging utilities, than of air. As whether water by bottleing (and coverture in ſprings or ſand) gets more or leſs fluidity, or conſiſtence, weight, or levity; what by boiling, *&c.* We ſay, that ſprings iſſuing from mineral veins do give in ſhort time a reddiſh tincture to the oaken leaf. Some ſprings are known to have ſuch conduct, and by comparing the properties of ſuch waters, they may learn to gueſs at the ſubterraneous veins. We have here (within a ſlight ſhoot) two very fluent and ſalubrious ſprings, differing in many qualities very much from each other; and both as much from a ſpring, which is in my garden, which gratifies the brewer, and corrupts all fleſh, that is watered or boiled in it; and (hard by) a ſearching unfreezing water, which tingeth all ſtones with the colour of ruſty iron, and is therefore called *Ruſty-well.* Not far off, an excellent eye-water. By Mr. *Oldenburg*, in my laſt, I gave notice of a water at my couſin *Robert Seymore*'s at *Hampford* in *Dorſetſhire*, which (to mine own, and generally to other guſts) improves malt to a third of quantity. If this may be found true, and the like in many other places, it may oblige brewers,

and good houſewives. Poſſibly you may deem it worthy your ſteward's enquiry, and may direct him to examine probable cauſes. The gentleman is of eaſy acceſs, and hoſpitable. I have under hand an experimental ſearch in general after the cauſes, or nourices of ſprings, which I intend you by the next; and then for ſoil and compoſt, with a ſpecial eye to your commands, "touching the more catholic ways of acquiring "our dominion by advancement of huſbandry," if God permit and enable.

WHEN we have found ways to diſcriminate the obvious properties of water, then we may further expatiate upon many ſtrange qualities of it in all parts of the earth; and may find better healers, than the pool of *Betheſda*, and greater wonders. But I am almoſt by experiments convinced, that if the poor would take knowledge, and accept of that ſtore of help, which God doth in very many places offer them, they might thence partake of a greater kindneſs, than the phyſician, ſurgeon, or apothecary will afford them, when they have ſpent all their ſubſtance.

Publica morborum requies, commune medentum
Auxilium, præſens numen, inempta ſalus.

ſaith *Claudian* of his *Aponus*.

SIR, having thus far trifled about curioſities of weights and meaſure, I wiſh the virtuoſi of *Italy*, *France*, and *Germany*, by amicable correſpondence, would agree with us for ſome academical ſtandard. For it ſeems to me as improper, that we ſhould uſe domeſtic meaſures, in addreſſes to foreigners, as to write in ſecretary or chancery hand. And I would propoſe, that ſince *Rome* was the laſt miſtreſs (of *Europe* at leaſt) we ſhould in literary communications uſe the *Roman* foot and meaſure, ſo exactly examined by *John Greaves*; or (at firſt) offer the debatement, who could give a more probable light to the ancient meaſures and weights; and it might be a fortune to an ingenious artificer to furniſh us, in box and braſs, with ſuch meaſures exactly ſubdivided. By a ſmall remark they might ſerve alſo to our vulgar *Engliſh* uſe, but the *Roman* is leſs. And when I read in *Greaves*, what tickliſh ſcales he carried about him in his travels, I may juſtly aſk, how well you are provided in *Greſham*.

SIR, I have been buſy to fill up my paper, but make too much waſte of your time, and am always,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEAL.

Of ſprings, fountains, lakes, waters, &c. Their originals, Jan. 18, 1663.

OUR ſchool philoſophers do take ſome pains in their philoſophical manner, to diſpute out the original of ſprings. Some ſay, they are engendered in the concavities of the earth, by condenſing air into water. I doubt we ſhould complain of thirſt, if we had no other ſprings. Others pretend to holy evidence, that all rivers come from the ſea, as the main fountain head. To ſalve this we may confeſs, that ſuch rivers, though they come not by ſprings immediately from the ſea, yet they may come thence mediately, by the vapours drawn (the greateſt part) thence, which are afterwards poured down in ſhowers and rain, dews, and miſts.

A VERY intelligent and induſtrious friend of mine, who dwells on the ſide of *Mendipp-hills*, hath made ſuch careful ſearch into the cauſe of ſprings, as by particulars inclines him to believe, that moſt ſprings are begotten by the falling rains, and ſnow diſſolved.

diſſolved. For he obſerves in the parts about his habitation, *viz. Mendipp-hills*, *Wells*, *Bath*, &c. which are a fair proſpect for this enquiry, as followeth.

THAT there are certain porous and ſpungy places, which there the people do call *ſwallows*, which devour all the rain, which by rain or otherwiſe is brought from thoſe vaſt hills thither. He notes ſuch ſwallows, as do devour vaſt quantities of rain in the wetteſt ſummers, autumns, winters, and ſprings.

AND that theſe ſwallows and gulfs are oftenеſt ſeen on hills and mountains, which are rocky, and where ſhowers are moſt frequent, and ſnow moſt abounding; and where the confluence of rain water ſliding from the tops of the hills is greateſt.

THAT the largeſt of our ſprings are found in the ſides or near the foot of thoſe hills; whereas (ſaith he) in our marſhes, and great levels, it is hard to find a ſpring, the land of thoſe lower grounds being more cloſe, or clay, or mud, ſuch as is ſome way or other leſs penetrable. He noteth a place on the top of *Mendipp-hills*, called *Rough-pits*, now famous by Mr. *Buſhell*'s late act of parliament, where the old wrought mines of many fathoms deep ſtand full to the brim after great rains, containing a little ſea, or great lakes of waters. From the foot of one ſide of theſe hills ariſe thoſe noble ſprings, denominating the place an Amnery, and the adjoining city *Wells*.

HE addeth, that many other ſprings ariſing on the ſides of ſeveral of thoſe *Mendipp-hills* do depend on the ſucceſs of the ſeaſon, growing dry by the heat of ſummer, and flowing again with the floods of winter.

HE noteth ſome ſprings, which are yearly exhauſted in *May* or *June*; ſome that hold out longer as the ſtock of water is greater.

THAT he knows a ſpring, which for twenty or thirty years conſtantly grew dry by *Midſummer*; yet the ſame ſpring in an extraordinary wet ſummer ran freſh the whole year round.

THAT the ſame ſpring hath been dried up in *May*, yet the ſame ſummer, after much rain, it guſhed out again before St. *James*'s tide.

THAT he knew another ſpring yielding a plentiful rivulet of excellent waters, which held out ſome moiſt years, but failed in ordinary ſummers.

THAT into the mouth of this ſpring, when empty, he did let in a neighbouring current, which entered in at the ſame place, where the former waters iſſued, and were there devoured for twenty-four hours together: that longer time he could not well allow for the experiment, without injury to thoſe, which did partake of the benefit of the current.

HE addeth, that in *Wiltſhire* bourns, he noted pure cryſtalline ſtreams running in gravelly channels between the green banks, where not a drop was to be ſeen in ſummer time; that after a dry autumn, and the like winter ſucceeding, no water was there to be found the whole year.

THAT ſome ſprings, which in forty years and more have not failed, in extreme dry ſummers have failed, as the living have ſeen for one proof, and have heard the like of former days.

HE inſiſteth on the reaſon rendered, why the brook *Cherith* was dried up, 1 *Kings* xvii. 7. "becauſe there had been no rain in the land." And the Pſalmiſt recounts it to the praiſe of God's wiſdom and goodneſs, that he ſendeth the ſprings into the vallies, which run amongſt the hills, and watereth the hills from his chambers.

THUS far he, a perſon of unqueſtionable credit in what he offers upon his own obſervation. Chiefly I remark two of his notes,

FIRST, that he noteth rain and ſnow to fall more frequently and abundantly on hills.

SECONDLY, that the ſurface and land is in ſome places, and frequently about hills, more bibulous than the vales, where clay abounds.

FOR

FOR the firſt of theſe, I have ſo often met with rain upon *Mendipp-hills*, that I aſked this gentleman, whether he ever ſaw a fair day, or clear ſun in his neighbourhood. And in *Herefordſhire*, we do generally ſee a white cap of ſnow upon *Malverne-hills*, which are eaſtward, and moſt aſſuredly upon the black mountain, which is weſtward from us, above a fortnight before we have ſnow in our lower ground: and the like I obſerved on the *Auvernian*, *Alpine*, and *Pyrenæan* mountains; and all along our road, between *Lyons* and *Geneva*, I could ſee thick miſts ariſing from the hills, or deſcending on the hills, when in our vale we had a ſettled ſerenity.

FOR the ſecond, we all know the ſurface of ſome provinces to be of a ſpungeous and thirſty ſoil, ſuddenly drinking up all the rains which fall; ſo that after many days of great rain, in an hour's ſerenity, the ways will be dried for pleaſant walks. In other clay land, the water ſinks not, but beats the ſurface into dirt, and haſtens to ditches, lakes, ponds and rivers.

IN a thirſty ſoil, a friend ſhewed me a garden he had deſigned, which looked like a deep broad trench, flanking on the ſide of his houſe. I aſked him, how he could hinder, but that it would be a mote, or fiſh-pool, having no fall or deſcent for the water which came thither: he told me, (and the rain fell abundantly then to prove it) that the ground would drink it up as faſt as it could fall from heaven, and from the leads of his large buildings.

I HAVE ſearched for ſprings near the foot of a hill, and on the deſcending ſides, with good ſucceſs; but I never ſaw a good ſpring, which did not iſſue through ſome gravelly vein, or ſtony vein, which ſometimes would be ſo ſoft, as to fall and crumble away at the touch: and wherever I found this crumbly ſtone, the ſpring would gather a quick ſtream, within a foot or two under it. And thus *Blith* notes in his Obſervations on bogs in *Warwickſhire* and *Leiceſterſhire*, *viz.* "That the water, which is ſpued up "out of all bogs, and begetteth the bog, proceedeth from this interruption of the "gravelly conduct: and the bog is cured by opening the ſpring in higher ground; "and that the ſpring runneth about a foot under the gravel or ſand."

AND that the earth is in ſome places ſo tubulous, as to ſwallow great rivers, our eyes have been witneſſes; and the noble and induſtrious virtuoſo, Mr. *Greaves*, in his Diſcourſe of Pyramids, pag. 101, 102. collects, "That the earth is ſo tubulous, as "to give ſecret commerce, and free paſſage, between the *Euxine*, *Caſpian*, and *Me-* "*diterranean* ſeas."

AND as the ſurface of ſome ſoil and mountains are bibulous, ſo we may well gueſs, that the channels of rivers, and the bottom of the ſeas, are in many places voraginous, and do ſend waters through channels and iſſues, even to the tops of our mountains, as it may fall out, without any real aſcent, by the diſtance in the horizon.

As why may not the famous ſource, not far from *Orleans* in *France*, as well derive from ſome gravelly or ſtony veins, that are in the channel of the *Loire*, as from the fall of rains on the neighbouring mountains or plains? And poſſibly there is a circulation of waters in this terreſtrial globe, as of blood in animals.

WE ſee, that as fiſh do live in the waters, (ſalt and freſh) ſo do many animals live in the earth, or under ground; not only worms and ſerpents, toads, frogs and effs, but an innumerable hoſt of creepers, whereof ſome are ſo ſwift, and ſome ſo beautiful, their heads trimmed with ſuch rich attire, and their ſkins painted with ſo many laces, ſtuds and guiſes of divers kinds, ſhining very bright as the microſcope ſhews them, as if they were adorned for ſome light there: of theſe I have found cluſters a foot deep in the earth, having ſtore of feet, and hard bodies half an inch long, driving ſpeedily through the earth every way, and the attire of their heads ſeemed to make room for their breathing. If the earth be ſo pervious for animals, it may alſo give way to dews and moiſture.

BUT

BUT the original of ſprings is not ſo much worth our enquiry, as the art and ſkill in opening, finding, and diſcovering them: and he that diſcovereth a good ſpring, obligeth poſterity; for waters, which do much hurt under ground, do oft-times much good above ground.

BLITH, in his Cure of Bogs, which are many times deſtructive to travellers and cattle, and the worſt waſte of lands, aſſures, upon his experience, "That every bog "hath moſt certainly a living ſpring in it. That if poſſibly we could light on the "head of that ſpring, or meet it higher, than the place of the bog, and gave it a clear "paſſage, the nether bogs will all vaniſh; that wherever the ſpring is drained to the "bottom, the bog is cured; but ſhould be drained one foot deeper than the bottom "of the ſpring. That in boggy land the ſpring lieth deeper than in ordinary ruſhy "land. That the ſpring is ſometimes within two feet of the natural ground, uſually "three or four feet deep; ſome ſix, eight or nine feet deep." And for thoſe countries, he deſcribes the ſeveral lays of earth thus: "Firſt he finds a black earth two or "three feet thick, then to a white earth like lime, and then to a gravel or ſand, in "which is the ſpring."

THESE colours of earth are not for all countries a fixed rule; the beſt help may be from the boring inſtrument, by which they ſearch for marle, coal and ſtone: and a ſoft ſtone or gravelly vein (as I noted before) ſeldom fails of a clear ſpring; and many circumſtances of hills, ſoil, gally or uliginous grounds, may direct our ſearch for a ſpring; and where one is found, it may direct our trial for more, till they be brought to a conſiderable head, or profitable ſtream.

MY foreſaid *Mendipp* friend complains, "That although his neighbours in the marſhes "and lower grounds have oft-times too much water; yet many times they have too "little of that which is wholſome, freſh ſprings being rarely found with them; ſo as "they and their beaſts drink out of the ditches; and if a man hath but a hole or a "pit to himſelf and his family, this he accounts a peculiar felicity, and this he forms "into a reverſed pyramid, with ſteps down into it, as the water ſinketh with the in-"creaſing heat of the year. In every dry year he caſteth out the mud and corrup-"tion, and then thinks all is well." Hence he collecteth the ground of their frequent unhealthfulneſs; and others are as ill ſatisfied with their booriſh and inhumane conditions, as too agreeable to their ſordid liquors. If their lazineſs would endure to dig deeper in ſummer time for true ſprings, and to bring ſtone to wall them, they might have purer waters, more health, and better minds and manners.

HE noteth, "That ſometimes freſh ſprings break out on the very banks of the ſalt "ſeas; and freſh fountains iſſuing below the flux of thoſe ſalt waters: that he mean-"eth not the percolated waters, which are found in the ſand digged on the ſhore, "mentioned by lord *Bacon*, experiment firſt, appears by the inſtance of that famous "hot well near *Briſtol*, flowing freely from St. *Vincent*'s rock, which hath (ſaith he) "the mouth frequently ſtopt with the tide, under which it ſometimes lies ſmothered "ſome fathoms deep."

HE propoſeth, "That many ſtreams of water, which do annoy highways, and "moleſt and endanger habitations, may by eaſy labour be diverted into ſuch ſwallow-"ing grounds, or conducted to profitable uſes, to the help of many noble manſions, "which want water, and to fit many places for commodious habitations: and truly "(ſaith he) a ſtudious and heedful obſerver, by taking notice of the poſition of rocks, "and the opening of them (which the miners there call rakes) may ground a good "conjecture, which way waters may be beſt directed. It ſeems the neighbours and "miners of *Mendipp* have a happy gueſs at it."

For

BUT now the properties of water in ſprings, lakes, and rivers, is more worthy our conſideration; but the qualities are ſo different, and ſo innumerable, that we know not where to begin, nor how to end, if we intended to embark in theſe ſeas.

FIRST, I will note the ruſtical uſe; and I think there is ſcarce any water ſo hungry, but if it were at fit times conveyed upon very dry and thirſty paſture, it would improve it. Neither have I ſeen any water ſo rich, but it would impoveriſh the paſture, and ſeem to eat it into holes, and beget ruſhes, and moſs too, if it ſtayed long on the paſture. And I have ſeen the ſame water enrich dry grounds by running at ſome allowed times over it, and impoveriſh the lower grounds, where it lay, till the ſpring ſun dried it up.

YET we note, that ſome uliginous water breeds a coarſe graſs, which cattle will not eat for pleaſure, for feeding, or for the dairy: a goat, upon a bald and rocky hill, will yield more and better milk, than a good cow in ſuch paſture.

AND the water which deſcends, or paſſeth through the land, that bears the beſt limeſtone, or through the rich vale, is pregnant of the clover, which yields milk and honey.

IN cold ruſhy land, a hungry water is found beneath the firſt and ſecond lay of the earth. If the ruſhes be ſhort and ſmall, the water is more jejune.

THEN commonly ſucceedeth a lay of gravel, or ſtony gritty earth, in which this hungry water is.

SOMETIMES this water and gravel is ſo near the turf, or ſward, that the turf and graſs is thereby deprived of ſucculent earth to feed the roots with ſtrength enough for honey-ſuckle or other fattening graſs.

BOTH in this caſe, and to cure the forementioned ruſhy land, it is good to order a ſufficient ſtore of trenches to carry away this deceiving water, at leaſt, as often as need requireth; and to ſhred earth thinly on the paſtures.

SOME do affirm, that if the trenches be ſunk a foot or more below the gravel, the water, which lying on the top of the gravel, did impoveriſh the paſture, will in the lower trenches carry a very fertile ſtream. If this be certain, it is an encouragement to ſome improvements, that are not yet in much uſe amongſt us.

WHERE the grounds do lie ſo, as will coſt too much to ſink channels deep enough to carry away this water, in the lowermoſt ground we may ſearch for ſome of the forementioned ſwallows; and that oft-times falls out after two or three ſpade depth under this gravelly ſurface: or it may be improved for fiſh-ponds, or a watering place for cattle.

TO make ſheep-paſture ſafe, it is very neceſſary to draw away this water, which makes the graſs very deſtructive to ſheep.

AND the water, which lies commonly in the furrows of fields newly turned from arable to paſture, begets a rank graſs very hurtful to ſheep.

IT is ſome ſuch gravelly or ſandy vein as aforeſaid, which carries that uliginous water too near the roots of corn, and weakens it (as the paleneſs of the blades and ſmall return ſhews) for many acres together, in many parts of the richeſt vales. The cure is difficult, and can hardly be done otherwiſe, than by a happy collection of thoſe waters in ſome over-ground, and reſtraining or diverting them from that lay of gravel.

I SAW a field, which, in moſt moiſt ſummers, or very wet winters, deceived the huſbandman. I gueſſed, that the waters were detained too near the roots of the corn, and by examining it with a ſpade, I found within a ſpade's depth a ſtiff clay, through which no rain could paſs. In this caſe, it is good in the loweſt ground to make catch-pools, as they call them, which gather the rain waters, and earth with them, to repair the land. And my *Mendipp* friend acquaints me of a witty neighbour, who uſeth

an iron inſtrument to ſtrike holes through this clay vein, by which the rain is ſwallowed, and the corn ſaved.

I SHOULD now proceed in recounting the œconomical, artificial, medical, chirurgical, and various, innumerable, and wonderful qualities of ſeveral kinds of waters. But it is better to inſiſt upon the general properties of obvious waters, to find out the cauſe of their differences; and, by teſt, to diſcover their originals, or the veins, by which they are conducted, which (poſſibly) may be the beſt or moſt frugal way of tapping the iſſues of rocks, hills, and mountains, to find out the ſubterraneous riches.

FOR example, our *Mendipp* friend collecteth, that generally ſprings run in veins not far from the ſurface of the earth, and do rarely pierce ſo deep, as to the copious mineral veins: of all that fall within his obſervation, he only excepteth Mr. *Buſhel*'s mines and rough pits, which lie wholly in water: that the body of the lower and beſt ſorts of coals do lie wholly drenched in water, which, ſaith he, may perhaps yield ſome ſulphureous qualities, richer coal participating much of ſulphur. By theſe waters, if their peculiar qualities were known, we might examine, whether the *Bath* waters had not ſome mixture of other more dangerous mineral veins, than our known lead-mines, as *Jordan* ſuſpected.

ALSO in *Mendipp* there are ſome caverns of water ſo ſhallow, that in all ſeaſons of the year they can drain them to proceed in their work: others are ſo deep, they cannot drain them, but at peculiar ſeaſons. Here we might try, whether the deeper or the ſhallower were the more ſalubrious for human diet.

OUR well-water, though cleanſed and kept quick by deſcent from a running ſpring, yet refuſeth to diſſolve peaſe for peaſe-porridge; as alſo it corrupteth fleſh in boiling; which the next neighbouring ſprings, which have not that reſt in wells, performeth moſt agreeably.

IN this our ignorance, and want of utenſils, we can better make enquiries, how to diſtinguiſh rain waters newly fallen, from ſuch as have ſtood long, either inſoluted, in clear gravel, pebble, or marble, or in pits and wells, *&c.* than other poſitives. And poſſibly ſomething more of the natures of colours might be found in examining the *Coventry* blue waters, and the *Stroud* ſcarlet waters, *&c.* how diſtinguiſhed.

AT *Wooby-vale*, the petrifying waters ſeem to guſh from hard rocks: our ruſty well-water, laſt mentioned, doth in one night give ſtones a reſemblance of ruſt.

I AM yet at a loſs, if in the body of mercury there be not ſome intumeſcence beſides gravity, occaſioned by the outward air, of which I cannot reach the cauſe, but do ſtill wiſh it compared with the natural ſtandard of water. For it calls to my mind two ſtrange notes in Sir *H. Blount*'s *Levant*, near the beginning, pag. 9; firſt, "That at "mid-day, and mid-night, the ſtream runs ſlower by much than at other times." Secondly, "That for ſixty miles the ſtream in the ſame channel mingles not." May we not find out theſe and many other ſtrange phænomena? But I muſt be abrupt.

Honourable SIR, *Jan.* 21, 1663.

IN two or three late packets by Mr. *Oldenburg*'s conveyance, I have moleſted you more with enquiries than with experiments; though pretending to the watery element, than which nothing more vulgar, nor ſcarce any thing leſs underſtood, or more uſeful, or more excellent, ἄριστον γὰρ ὕδωρ. In theſe I preſent a medical ſecret, as it is recommended to me by a perſon of very great wit, and great fame, and long experience in chirurgery, who tells me (and it is evidently true) that he hath by this, as his chief myſtery, theſe eighteen years gotten above 50 *l.* yearly. If it be a ſecret and conſiderable, he hath given me power by your hand to make it my affectionate offering to the Royal Society. But confines it to you and the other ſworn perſons of the

council for uſe; and that his myſtery in the nakedneſs of compoſition, and application, be not proſtituted. If it be vulgar, and trivial, you will pleaſe to let me know ſo much, that I may underſtand the meaſure of my obligation. It is no more than this.

TAKE half an ounce of coloquintida (pulling out the ſeeds carefully) boil it in a quart of wine vinegar, till a third part, or thereabout, be conſumed. Strain it, and then boil it up a ſhort wain with a pound of the beſt true ſugar, that is not mingled with alum, *&c.* ſcumming it. In bottles it will hold good ſome years. It kills infallibly all manner of worms, and may be ſafely taken in potion, a ſpoonful for a child of two years old; two ſpoonfuls for eight years old; four or five ſpoonfuls for firm age. If a gliſter or vomit faileth to work, this in a ſpoonful or two never faileth, nor forceth the ſtomach, as the vomit doth; and cleanſeth the bowels of all ſorts of worms, wind, *&c.* cureth cold, agues, *&c.* It ſhould be taken faſting, and to faſt two hours after, with care from cold. It is dangerous to drink cold drink within ſome hours after. Drink well warmed with a toaſt may be taken after two or three hours. The gentleman being famous, and of much practice in the chief parts about *London*, *Barkſhire*, *Bucks*, *Wilts*, *Oxford*, and now in the Weſt, aſſures me, that ſeveral kinds of worms beget unknown maladies, and very generally the deſtruction of young and old, breeding in all parts of the body, in the womb and ſeed veſſels, and are cured by this in a ſyringe, in the eyes, brain, *&c.* of which he promiſeth me the account and application. He ſhewed me ſome ſtrange monſters, which he brought alive from his patients. Here (at Mr. *Phelip Montague*'s) a woman voided a monſter of twenty-one inches long, and full of joints like knot-canes, or horſe-tail graſs. The head ſome of the family had cut off, and caſt away, ſo that we could not ſee it. This they did, becauſe it was ſo ugly, as might raiſe ill fame. Some ſaid it was like a ſerpent. The taſte is much diſguiſed by the vinegar and ſugar, yet ſo horrid, that ſome chew cheeſe, and ſpit it out, ſome other things to remove the diſguſt. Some bodies breed deſtroying worms perpetually: theſe muſt uſe it twice, or more often in a year. How trite ſoever it may ſeem to you, be pleaſed to try a doſe of it upon a pot of garden-worms, and obſerve it with your own eye, with what ſpeed, and in what manner it operates upon the worms. It will invite you to ſhew the experiment to the Royal Society. They may gueſs at the ingredient, but miſtake the mixture, doſe, applications, and effects. He tells me of worms of incredible length found in the bowels; and finds often worms, that do fill up the whole length of the ſmall guts in rabbits. I have deſired a kinſman (my couſin *Phelip*'s ſon) to attend the ſlaughter-houſe of butchers to ſee whether worms may not be found in the bowels of tainted ſheep; for they and rabbits are ſubject to the ſame ſeaſons of the rot.

I HAVE read in phyſicians old and new, that human bodies have produced ſome varieties of the ſubterraneous matters, vegetables, and animals. And our liquids are a pregnant mother almoſt of all things. My old lady *Phelips* is a conſtant water-drinker, and it hath preſerved her (as ſhe conceives) from a reſort of feverous heats in her ſtomach, and from the ſcorbutic, which ſeized upon her about forty years ago, when her huſband Sir *Robert Phelips* was committed to the *Tower*. She is pleaſed to try the diverſities of many waters (which I name to her) by the taſte of her palate. Some years ago I ſent to Mr. *Brereton* a ſhining ſand, that ſeemed like ore of tin or ſilver, full of ſuch thin ſparkles. The refiners made nothing of it. But the water cleared the eyes, healed ſcabs and itch, diſpatched ſun-burning and freckles, and gave ladies a luſtre as quick as any of their new pigments. By this vein of ſilver ſand, I was directed to open many permanent ſprings thereabout. And in my garden I had a black poiſonous moat, which infected all the houſe in hot weather, and bred toads and efts, which

which deſtroyed my garden. I digged a trench, and found a fall to convey away thoſe foul waters, and then found a weak ſpring, which by ſinking it two feet deeper, diſcovered that vein, and continued a very briſk and wholeſome ſpring of the foreſaid qualities. By which I concluded it beſt to avoid the depth of fountains, or wideneſs of moats, by which the water might contract putrefaction by reſt. And in thoſe beautifying fountains, I allowed but a ſhallow and narrow compaſs for the reception of ſpring-water.

MY friend of *Mendipp* tells me of a black incruſtated ſubſtance, which he found in *Mendipp-hills*, bedecked very delightfully with artificial branches of the exact form of ferns, which they there ſay is an infallible diſcoverer of a coal-mine; and that there are the like forms of bay branches. And that Mr. *Buſhel* (to whom he gave this reſemblance of fern) ſhewed him the like reſemblance of roſemary ſprigs, which he found in the veins of ſilver. The ſtones of ſerpentine figures, which I preſented by Mr. *Oldenburg*, are in the very ſame ſhape of two colours, thoſe of *Keinſham* near *Mendipp* are reddiſh, as I hear the ſtones are there: theſe about *Hambden-hill* are yellow, as the *Hambden* ſtone is. Monſieur *Petit*, a medical practitioner, voucheth his own frequent experience, that their powder in drink is a moſt incomparable antidote and preſent remedy againſt poiſon. I am ſlow in my faith. Here are of the ſame in divers other ſtrange ſhapes, ſcalops, rams-horns, and as the marks of feet of beaſts and birds, as if imprinted in breeding there. This I ſee, and of this I can further aſſure you, that both here, and at *Keinſham*, ſome ſtones have been cleft, containing about ſixty of theſe ſerpentine ſhapes, ſome bigger and ſome leſſer, as in caſes. And one is ſent me moſt curiouſly drawn, but (as all the reſt) without a head. The materials very hard and weighty, and in all appearances reſembling metal between a ferruginous and copper colour. It ſeems a kind of marcaſite. This I had from *Keinſham* near *Mendipp*.

SIR, I ſhall conclude this with a very ſtrange ſtory tranſcribed verbatim from the ſame gentleman, a perſon of indubitable credit. I ſhall impart a paſſage near me, from whence you may extract ſome profitable concluſions in philoſophy. My neighbour's ſpaniel worrying a ſheep, they fell both together into an old mine, and faſted there a full fortnight. At length the owner of the ſheep directed to the place, drew out his beaſt alive; but the dog looking with glowing eyes in the dark pit, and not meriting the diſpleaſed man's courteſy, was left there alone for a full week longer, and at laſt being relieved, lives to put you upon the ſearch of this ſecret. This was a pit, where the air was ſerene, neither too much, nor too little. But in mines where there is a quick ſucceſſion of air, the ſtomach is craving. The dog lay cloſe to his prey, yet faſted. Thus he, *March* 12, 1662, by which date I gueſs it was in that winter, or near that time.

Honourable Sir,
your moſt obliged ſervant,
J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, April* 25, 1664.

I RECEIVED, by our dear friend Mr. *Oldenburg*'s conveyance, the Hiſtory of Colours from your noble and bountiful hand. I muſt keep conſtant to your order of forbearing the juſt applauſe due to you. And therefore I will rather complain, that in this you have inflamed our deſires, and expectations to ſee the deſign completed by the ſame happy hand, at leaſt for the remaining ſimple colours, yellow, red, and blue. For if you reſt here, I do not think any diſcreet man dares attempt to go on. And in my opinion, you have not only broken the ice, but have abſolved

the main and hardeſt work already. For, in mine own narrow thoughts, I was moſt of all plunged at the cauſes, and difference of whiteneſs and blackneſs. All that I can ſay to this excellent work I have ſignified already to Mr. *Oldenburg*; and it importeth nothing but votes for the like ſucceſs in the reſt.

IN the firſt place, I wiſh there were prepared to your hand (by ſome judicious and induſtrious perſon, who throughly taſtes your pleaſing diſcoveries) an acute, full and pertinent collection of God's paintings (ſo I may juſtly call it) on flowers and fruits, and other things in nature, with the adjunct alterations in taſte, medicine, or other qualities. For ſome flowers admit of ſome variety, others of more or leſs. Some flowers, and many ſorts of fruit do change complexion, as they advance in maturity. Of which ſome judgment is given by my lord *Bacon*, and controverted by Mr. *Auſten*. I have ſeen a very ſmall and almoſt inviſible touch of red, or purple, as the ſun and heat increaſed, in one day ſpread all over a tulip, which in the morning appeared white. And I have ſeen thoſe you call blue-bottles take the ſame beauty in other colours, white, pink-colour, ſcarlet. And I can name but one garden, where I found this weed in this variety. But this I cannot wiſh, without hopes of your notes, method, and illuſtrations upon it.

MY ſecond wiſh is, that you would take up a whole chapter in the uſe of your microſcope, or rather three or four more and leſs magnifying glaſſes. For though my eyes were never good, and are now much decayed, and my beſt magnifying glaſs be not worthy of *Reeves*'s promiſes; yet by mine, and ſome other leſſer microſcopes compared together, I ſeem to receive many hints, and much aid towards the diſcovery of the original of colours, at leaſt in many particulars. In mine I can, with my bad eyes, find the different conſiſtence, cloſeneſs or looſeneſs of contextures, which cauſeth the ſame colours in ſome bodies to be more languid and duſkiſh, in others more briſk and vivid, in others more emphatical. I can ſee ſome of thoſe ſimple colours compound, ſome duſky, thick, and dark bodies tranſparent, *&c.* For example, I have not ſeen more changeable variety in any flower, than in the leaves of one ſort of ſage, as chamletted with whites, greens, reds, tawnies, purples, yet all in a duſky hue; and the gloſſes will ſhew the porous and ſpungeous windings, which mortify the rays from a briſk reflection. Here in the great glaſs a very perfect vermilion had very little true redneſs, but only a ruddineſs, as of thick gore-blood, and ſome ſparkling corpuſcles, whoſe ſtrait and direct ray ſeemed to give the bright redneſs on the way. So in greens, and other colours, I find them leſs perfect in the glaſs, but compounded of ſhining ſparkles from other parts of the ſame leaf. And every perfect painter knows, that his picture would lie flat on the table, and be worthy to lie in the dirt, if it were not taught by the artifice of ſhadows to come off roundly. A very dark grey ſand is here all cryſtal and tranſparent. Some other ſand, of no alluring colour, is rubies, emeralds, every jewel, not one ſand of dull hue. I pounded the black ſhining ſand, and it was full of ſtarry eyes. I filed off ſome ore I had out of a tin mine, which ſeemed to the naked eye very luſtrous, but the very ſmall duſt denied in my glaſs to be luſtrous or tranſparent. Here I ſee ſome reaſons of the differing briſkneſs of colours in metals, glaſs, horn, ſilk, woollen, linen, flowers, *&c.* and much that may confirm your main engagement.

SIR, I will adventure to betray the folly of a third wiſh, which may ſeem very phantaſtical, but it had this occaſion or temptation. Mr. *Oldenburg* beſtowed on me a hydroſtatic, which being fitted to a horn, that gave no more room than was neceſſary to let the inſtrument ſink, I could thereby, and apparently to mine own defective eye, diſtinguiſh the ſeveral weights of ſpring waters in the tenth or fifteenth part of a pint, more palpably, than I could diſtinguiſh the whole pint of the ſame waters in the beſt copper

copper ſcales that this town affords. Hence I aſked, how far this inſtrument may be improved? and whether poſſibly it may not diſcover ſome of the liquids, which you mention, after colour to be lighter, or heavier, than either ingredient was. If ſo, it might be a kind of argument of cloſer or looſer contexture of parts; and thence ſhew (for aught I know) which ſort of colours require the cloſer contexture. If I tried in white wine, and red, or claret, in the juice of white and red raſpberries, or white and red currants of the ſame age and degree of ferment refined, I cannot here make ſo exactly the ſame inference, becauſe in that way the very individuals are laid in the ſcales. In wines, and cyder, and perry, and all thoſe liquors of currants, raſpberries, and in plumbs, ſtrawberries and cherries, as I apprehend the red do bind the ſtomach, and tickle it with a more ſalubrious provocation of appetite, and help of digeſtion, than the white. What this will infer for colours I muſt rather expect from you, than offer the ſacrifice of mine own ignorance. Thus I conceive, that the ſtatics may bring in collateral aid to many diſcoveries of heat, and fire, fermentation, cloſeneſs of parts, and many other matters, if not alſo of colours.

BUT with this looſe diſcourſe I have ill requited you for your great favour. Yet if I could make better returns, they ſhould not be wanting.

Honourable Sir,

I muſt ever remain

your moſt humble and

moſt obliged ſervant,

JOHN BEALE.

SIR, *May* 27, 1665.

IT was *Thurſday* laſt that I received your noble favour by the conveyance of our worthy friend Mr. *Oldenburg*. I am not worthy to offer you any account of it, and leaſt of all, being now in the prime of the enjoyment. This argument of cold I had only *in votis* about eight years ago, and ſo I wrote to Mr. *Hartlib*. But I had no hope then to live to ſee the beſt of chemiſts ſummon all the curious, to have a due regard to ice, and ſnow, and freezing. I had at the ſame time a like deſire for a conſiderable micrography. And I know to whom we are indebted to that performance alſo. In truth I am in many other matters of greateſt weight prevented; and am ſurpriſed with illuſtrations far above the maturity (I ſhould ſay the rawneſs) of my wiſhes. And you have done much to teach us all, how to rectify and to amplify our aims, wiſhes, and enquiries.

I AM full of deſires to prove myſelf no unthankful perſon, having received ſo many great favours from you; and every ſmall river returns to the ocean, as the ſovereign of all ſprings. I can only offer effete endeavours. I have often been ſolicitous, how I might tender to you one line, that might be ſerviceable to your dear engagement for the empire of mankind. That which herewith I ſend you, is my laſt thoughts, but ſo raſhly drawn, and in ſuch an unlegible hand, that I cannot deviſe how you ſhould find a reader, or one that can have the patience to ſever the few grains from the maſs of droſſy ore. If I ſhould keep them for a review, the whole would be forfeited under the ſponge, as hath befallen me in other eſſays of more affections than judgment. Neither have I hope of leiſure for ſecond thoughts. You will here allow rather the warmth of a ſolicitation, than require the rigour of experiments. Yet I had not been ſo forward in this, if I had not in myſelf in my childhood, about five or ſix years before I came to *Eton* ſchool, found more of truth in what I here propoſe, than I hold fit to affirm now, or to expreſs. I aſſure you, I did abide oft-times under water with much

much wonder at mine own eaſe and delight in it; and ſo long, that in my preſent underſtanding, and with ſuch memory as I have of it, I cannot think it poſſible, that I ſhould or could abide half ſo long without breathing above water. And this I take to be a conſiderable query, whether the *Americans* and other naked people, which are bred to ſeek their food in the ſeas, and to take much of their habitation there, are not able to dive longer than they can hold their breath above water; chiefly whether their children are not more apt to ſwim, or to endure diving at the firſt eſſay, much better than we that are clothed, and dry fed.

SIR, I think you may find yourſelf there recited in a parentheſis, that takes in more than I intended, or agrees with ſtrict truth; but I thought it fit to paſs in the number of other known faults, becauſe it falls into your merciful hands.

BUT I defraud you of that, which you can hardly ſpare, your precious time.

I PRAY for the right honourable viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and for all your excellent relations.

Moſt Honoured Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, *Yeovell, Sept.* 7, 1665.

I WISH theſe may find you in *Eton* college, and well ſettled there. But I am alſo to acquaint you, that by poſt, on *Monday* laſt, I ſent to Mr. *Oldenburg* two conſiderable accounts of Mr. *Gratrix*'s healing.

THE one is in the hand of Mr. *Thomas Wall*, a miniſter (independent) who, it ſeems, took a journey from hence thither, with ſpecial purpoſe to be throughly informed of the whole truth. He noteth many peculiars, which deſerve and require at leaſt a double teſtimony, eſpecially that of the healer's hand twice ſtruck dead, and black as a coal, upon his unbelief, and as often healed by the touch of his other hand. If this can have no other witneſſes but Mr. *Gratrix* and his wife, yet then the conſtancy and agreement of their teſtimonies are fit to be recorded.

THE other account is from *Lionel Beacher*, ſometime mayor of *Biddiford*, who could take no ſatisfaction, but from his own eyes and ears. This is ſaid to be in Mr. *Worſley*'s hand, and it is very like his hand. I received both from Dr. *Sydenham*, who preſents his humbleſt ſervice to you. He promiſeth to overwhelm us with clear evidences of ſuch wonders, as would be incredible, if not ſo well confirmed. And I have ſeen many other good teſtimonials of like wonder.

SIR, if you ſhall pleaſe to examine theſe accounts, perchance you will perceive many things worthy the ſagacity of your own further enquiries and directions; and your acquaintance in *Youghall*, *Liſmore*, *&c.* may give you large opportunities to add to the ſearch and evidence of a buſineſs, which deſerves to be ſpeedily publiſhed, as far as is poſſible, and with fulneſs and exactneſs. It is a convincing evidence of the powerful name of our Lord *Jeſus*, in a ſeaſon that needed ſome evidence, that all revelations were not fanatical.

BUT I ſhould refer all to your own better advice, being always,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged

and faithful ſervant,

JOHN BEALE.

SIR,

SIR, *October* 11, 1665.

I MADE as much haſte as I could to return my moſt humble acknowledgments of your laſt favours by the ſame hand that brought them to me.

BUT now hearing that you give life to the engagements of the Royal Society by a club in *Oxford*, and that you have opportunities to confer with Mr. *Auſten*, I make bold to propoſe an expedient or two, by which his induſtry and faithfulneſs to experiments may correct and amend old reports, and much improve our vegetables for aliment. Much of this I can give in one reference, *viz.* to *Palladius*, and more particularly his fourteenth book *de inſitione*. Where, though we muſt expect a poetical gloſs, and overſtraining for wonder, and I have ſeen ſome experiments fail of his character; yet I cannot hear of any ſufficient proſecution of the argument by real and careful eſſays, which may at eaſy rate be made in a nurſery, where the neighbour grafts may be permitted to draw from their native ſtock, more or fewer years, for variety of experiment. I hear of many eſſays of Mr. *Finch* in *Herefordſhire* and *Worceſterſhire*; but not of any ſuch largeneſs in his aim. We ſee, that *Palladius* wrote much upon real experience himſelf, being an illuſtrious perſon of large revenues, his lands in *Italy*, *Naples*, and *Sardinia*, *&c.* very differing ſoils, *&c.* More particularly, and of more general uſefulneſs, and at ſome certainty, we may complain, that we have too long and too much neglected the liquor of cherries. For it is beyond belief, what ſtore of cherries one acre of kind land will yield in a fit air, when they eſcape froſts. And by this you may judge of their cheapneſs, that we have often ſeen cherries brought from *Peak* near *Worceſterſhire* to *Hereford* (which is eighteen miles) on horſe-back for two-pence *per* pound, or thereabouts. For ſuch carriage they muſt be gathered more carefully, than for the preſs, and the liquor may yield a far greater value; but I could never obtain a due examination of the ſalubrity of the liquor, or what kind of cherry yielded the beſt and wholeſomeſt liquor, how long they ſhould be in the heap after they are gathered, before they be preſſed; and the time of the liquor's maturity. I was in covenant with many perſons to proſecute theſe enquiries, and to deviſe commodious preſſes; and ſome applauded their ſucceſs, ſome failed, none took encouragement to continue the experiment, and to advance it to any conſiderable quantity. And it is to be conſidered, that ſome land and air is fitter for cherries, than for other fruit. And perchance they would do leſs hurt in liquor, than in their kind: otherwiſe I would ſay little for them. I conceive they ſhould be preſt within twenty-four hours after they are gathered, yet not immediately; and the liquor ſpeedily incloſed for fermentation. For it ſeems apt to expire.

BUT, Sir, I ſhould not give you this trouble, neither do I intend it otherwiſe than by your recommends with my ſervice to Mr. *Auſten*. I have indeed many other thoughts concerning apples, pears, and cyder fruit, but that work thrives happily, and needs no nice curioſity.

FOR the vegetables Dr. *Sydenham* is a very heretic; he detracts as much from the worth of their knowledge, as they overſpoke it, who gave them a Godhead. And *Hortus Sanitatis* is leſs faulty in over-numbering their virtues, than he in diminiſhing the account. He was much pleaſed with the account I offered of the correſpondence of parts in plants. I had my firſt directions in a brief manuſcript from Mr. *Hartlib*, *de herbis ſine duce cognoſcendis*; which I put into my lord *Brereton*'s hands, intending it for the public; and I conceive it worthy to be further ſolicited.

SIR, ſince you have appeared ſo heartily and ſucceſsfully for religion, and have once allowed me the freedom to adviſe you in one point, wherein you will pleaſe to remember, that I did not engage them in a controverſy, but only moved you to decline the engagement; I pray you let me further prevail with you to adventure half a quar-

ter

ter of an hour (it cannot coſt you more time) to read the ſecond chapter of *Socinus*'s *Prælections. In quo quæritur, quid ſit in homine naturaliter, quod ad religionem pertinet.* It hath been much in my thoughts above theſe thirty years. And it advertiſed me to dive into the ſpirits of many people to find their bent, notions and grounds. And as to the general, I find it very hard to diſcern, how much or how little of religion we have in the frame of our natures; and to diſtinguiſh that from all kind of revelation, or tradition. And Mr. *Hales* told me often, that he found himſelf utterly at a loſs in that point. And ſo he notes in one of thoſe ſcraps that are printed.

YET I incline to conceive, that all the world over there is more of revelation and grace, than we can ſtrictly claim from our natural frame, or any lines written in our hearts. And I hope this will acquit me from *Pelagianiſm*, which the *Calvinians* do liberally daſh upon all their adverſaries. And for ought I can hear, the *Americans* in general take more reverend knowledge of ſuperior and divine powers, than ſome that live amongſt us. And I can ſhew you in *England* the full body of ſome towns and countries, very zealous, devout, ready to do, to ſuffer, and to expend freely in the way of their religion, yet within twenty or thirty miles of that place, the whole body of people habitually, and time out of mind, unſenſible, and wholly as unconcerned in all diſcourſes of religion, and apt to take all to be fanatics, that make any pretence to ſeriouſneſs in devotion. Hence I collect, that by cuſtom many people do uncon-cern themſelves in the holy traditions, which they received from their anceſtors. And yet alſo that all nations very generally, if not univerſally, have ſomewhat of holy tradition; and therefore it is the beſt uſe we can make of our reaſon, if we employ it candidly and heartily to find out ſafe and firm grounds why and how far we ſhould admit of revelation, by what evidence, *&c.* To the words of *Socinus*, *Hoc autem nihil aliud eſt* in arg. 12. of that chapter, I can add the fulneſs of primitive fathers, of beſt authority, which being added to the elegancies of *Cælius Secundus Velcurio*, *de amplitudine regni Dei*, will plead more comfort for good-natured, ſober and honeſt *Gentiles*, and much more yet for devout *Jews* and *Mahometans*, than for our over-growing atheiſtical drolls.

BUT the letter I intended is become a book of blots, and it is time I ſubſcribe,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, *Nov.* 9, 1665.

BY the favour of your conveyance, I have received a packet from Mr. *Auſten*, of which I know not how to acknowledge the receipt, but by giving you the trouble of it.

I BELIEVE Mr. *Auſten* hath given you the ſame account, which he does to me; and is very ſolicitous to promote cyder by laws. I hope there is no need of ſuch enforcement. For I hear that nurſeries of fruit-trees are advanced in every county, and that will alſo prepare and encourage the preſent, and poſterity. But becauſe nurſeries are ſlow, and the men of this age are impatient for diſpatch, I can propoſe an expedient, that would entertain the curious, and find them an employment in their nurſeries, as hopeful, and as uſeful, and as delightful, as in any kind, either of philoſophy, or of agriculture. I mean the re-examination, and the further proſecution of the noble *Palladius*'s XIVth book, which is *De inſitione*. Of this I made mention in my laſt to Mr. *Auſten*; and now I have doubly recommended it to your own advice. If I had leiſure, I would adventure it in a more public manner, together with ſome other collections, which

which I have found in old writers, and compared with modern eſſays. And I think we may wonder at ourſelves, that we have done ſo little in a field ſo large, upon an argument ſo pleaſant. And I wiſh ſome good printers would take notice, that *Palladius*, and the other three, *Rei Ruſticæ Authores Latini veteres*, will never be out of requeſt, but have this long time been out of print. Dr. *Fell* found it a hard work, and of long time to procure me one of them; and that is in a very faulty edition of *Hier. Comeline*, *Anno* 1595. Mr. *Oldenburg* hath them in the edition of *Robert Steven*. It were no hard work in an academical corrector of the preſs, to improve the beſt edition, as by the notes of *Barthius*'s notes in *Columella*, lib. x. *De cultu hortorum*, &c.

AND in my time we were many of us in *Cambridge*, who did freely offer our aſſiſtance to the correctors and printers upon all ſuch occaſions.

BUT, Sir, I muſt crave your pardon for my frequent importunities.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, *Feb.* 6, 1665.

I MUST remember, that when firſt you beſtowed your books upon me, you blamed me for not returning my cenſure. If I had need of an apology for ſuch freedom as I here intend, hence I could frame it. But your virtue is more ſolid than to require ſmooth handling; and you cannot exchange that leiſure for a compaſs of ſoft words.

1. THEREFORE to begin rudely with generals, I ſhall tell you that, which you will hardly believe. Perſons of no ordinary capacities do find your three diſcourſes of thermometers and baroſcopes difficult; that aſſiduity upon the argument, with exemplars before your eyes, hath made all things ſo eaſy to you, that you will ſcarce apprehend how it can be intricate to another. Yet I ſee no remedy you can have to clear all, but by recommending the ſale of all ſorts of weather-glaſſes, and baroſcopes to ſome perſons, that are fitteſt, and of beſt truſt, in *London*, *Oxford*, and *Cambridge*. Theſe are the liquid demonſtrations. And ſome inventions may be better communicated in ſpecie, than by books.

2. I ENGAGE for you, that you need not the poet's excuſe, *Brevis eſſe laboro—Obſcurus fio*. For you are as plain and ample as can be. And whatever is of itſelf intricate, it comes often in our way, and is laid down in variety of good expreſſions. But whilſt you take too much care to ſecure our underſtandings, and to help us with much of your patience, ſuch as have not the objects before their eyes, are more apt to languiſh than to feel the life of your arguments. Were the virtuoſi furniſhed with theſe philoſophical utenſils, then you might permit yourſelf in ſome repetitions to come off more roundly, and more briſkly; and well you might adventure to refer this to your judicious tranſlator. I ſhall explain my ſenſe by an exemplar of a twofold aſpect.

A NUMBER of famous lawyers did urge againſt me, that our learned *Selden* wrote the beſt *Latin* that ever was uttered. I denied it to be his due praiſe; for in truth he took too much care to be rightly underſtood, and to bound his own ſenſe: and *Ben Johnſon*, when he read *Seneca*, cried oh, that he would truſt my underſtanding! This was in a far differing caſe, for he meant it of giving the ſame ſum over and over in ſeveral coins. Of the latter fault no man can accuſe you; and for the former excuſe, I do truly thank you, but all men will not turn it into your praiſe.

3. MORE particularly the tranſlator may do well to refer in the margin to the ſcheme or figure there intended; or to explicate where the diſcourſe requires ſome change of

figure. As I think, p. 33. which ſeems to belong to the firſt or ſecond, and to the fifth figure, though not beforementioned.

4. AND perchance there is ſome miſtake of the printer, pag. 792. l. 8. where *Zuc-clius* pretends to a good ſealed weather-glaſs, which if true, removes the ſuſpicion of pag. 797. that it was not a ſealed glaſs. And again there, pag. 792. l. 9. it is ſaid to be obſerved three years together, which excludes the anſwer, p. 799.

5. I SHOULD add, that I am almoſt become confident, that one of my thermometers by ſuch inſolation, as may be had in *England* from our ſtone walls, hath loſt ſome inches of liquor. For I cannot find any leak, or expiration, neither doth it waſte at any other time, but under very ſtrong heats: and a ſmall cylinder of water on the ☿ in my baroſcope, and alſo a white liquor, which in the extremity of laſt winter froſts was diſtilled from the ſpirit of wine into the bolt-head of my ſmalleſt ſealed thermometer; theſe two liquors do remain in the uſual ſolar rays of my ſtudy unconſumed. From whence I ſeem to argue, that ſealed thermometers may fitly be graduated for our winter, and for ordinary ſummers; but for better uſes another thermometer may be appendant, that at ſome ſeaſons it may be compared, how far it agrees with the firſt rules of graduations in the winter thermometer. And if your perfect ſcales will ſhew, that a ſealed glaſs may by inſolation loſe weight, then you may adviſe your tranſlator of a ſhort paragraph, pag. 58. l. 14. For that in ſome caſes the ſeal will not keep the liquor from evaporation. But who can enumerate all the diſcoveries that may be made by ſealed glaſſes, as well upon earth and vegetables, as upon air and liquids?

6. I PRAY you ſuffer me to raiſe a queſtion, which is more like to betray my own ignorance, than to inform you. This I would not preſume to do, if I had any ice or ſnow here. It is above thirty years ſince I practiſed the freezing by ſnow and ſalt. Then I ſeemed to apprehend, that a kind of circular motion of that ſnow and ſalt did accelerate and invigorate the freezing. And this laſt, *May* 6, I tried the like or more gentle but circular motion of the liquor, in which mackarels were boiled and pickled, for the luciferous experiment of ſhining in the dark, which (though the water or pickle was thick and muddy) ſucceeded without fail, upon the motion of the hand in the ſame gentle circular manner, as the dairy-maid ſtirreth the milk, to curdle it for cheeſe. When that motion ceaſed, it did not ſhine. But in this experiment there were many other circumſtances requiſite, of which I can give you a fuller account at your command. This ſeemed to our preſent purpoſe, the reſt to belong more generally to fermentation. If this ſhould have any importance towards freezing, your tranſlator may be minded of it, pag. 181. For though you ſignify near the end of pag. 525. that it ſhould be nimbly ſtirred; and again, pag. 593. l. 1. in a briſk motion: and there again, l. 20. in another kind of agitation. And though the circular motion cannot be applied in many of your experiments, yet if you find it true, or any kind of motion more conducing than other, the firſt rejected place, pag. 181. may be fitteſt for the record; and poſſibly this enquiry, and the microſcope, may ſomewhat aſſiſt for the hypotheſis of cold. If it proves impertinent, I hope you will not impute it to any want of my reſpects. For I offer it with diffidence enough.

THUS I have ſearched for cavils from the beginning to the end; and in the laſt waſte page of *Opera nondum edita*, I find my diſcomfort. For there I miſſed *The Continuation of lord* Bacon's *Sylva Sylvarum*, or *promiſcuous Experiments*, mentioned in your *Phyſiological Eſſays*, pag. 14, 15, and 16. This title might preſerve and ſhelter many ſcattered papers of beſt note, and redeem you from the trouble of methods and ambages, and ſupply and rectify the firſt adventurer, our lord *Bacon*; and would ſuggeſt many occaſions to prove, that ſomebody hath at laſt advanced beyond his expectation and votes.

votes: and one well choſen experiment is (in my opinion) worth more than many of the largeſt volumes of old ſtile.

YET this I durſt not ſay, if I did not think it would rather eaſe you, and free you from ſome confuſions, than add to the burthen. I am ſure I am,

SIR,

your moſt obliged, and

moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, you gave us the firſt or fulleſt notice, that the ſmaller glaſs canes do draw water higher above the ambient ſurface, than wider tubes. And the ſame heat which fits the bolt-head to draw water into the open weather-glaſs, will not ſuffice to expel the ſame water; and the ſmaller weather-glaſs requires the greater increaſe of heat to expel the liquor. And the gravity of the atmoſphere hath more influence to interrupt the indications of heat and cold in one kind of open tube, than in another. But you give us good reaſon, why we ſhould not expect, that you ſhould here lay down all your own obſervations. The white liquor, which I noted to be diſtilled out of the ſpirit of wine, deeply tinged in the hardeſt froſts, was done in a very ſmall glaſs, that had the faults which you mention, pag. 41, 42. In the larger thermometers it did not ſucceed, though they were expoſed longer to the ſame froſts. This may accord with lord *Bacon*'s conjecture in experiment 27. M. H.

Of mackarels, and their liquor ſhining in the dark.

ON *Thurſday May* 5, 1665, freſh mackarels were boiled in water with ſalt and ſweet herbs in the uſual manner; being boiled, they were taken out of the water, and on *Friday* morning next following, the water being then perfectly cold, the mackarels were put into it for a preſerving pickle. On the morrow, being *Saturday*, more freſh and ſweet mackarels were boiled in like water, and on *Saturday* morning were put again into the ſame boiled water, being then fully cooled, and both mackarels and water were then put together in the ſame veſſel with the mackarels and water, that were boiled on *Thurſday* foregoing.

ON *Monday* evening the butler ſtirring the water to take out ſome of the mackarels, found the water very luminous, and the fiſh ſhining through the water, as adding much to the light, which the water yielded. I could ſee the fiſhes in their juſt proportion, as they lay, emitting rays all over the water; and both fiſhes and water ſpreading rays at ſome ſmall diſtance about the veſſel.

THE water by the mixture of ſalt and herbs in the boiling, was of itſelf thick and blackiſh, or dark; yet being ſtirred, it ſhined, as having ſome inherent light in itſelf, but the fiſhes appeared more luminous and in their own ſhapes, as is above noted.

I NOTE, that the liquor had ſome inherent light in it apart from the rays of the fiſh; for that, wherever the drops of water fell, they ſhined, both on the ground, and on the ſtools. And my children caught drops in their hands as big as a penny or two-pence, and theſe drops by ſhining ſeemed to me as broad as ſix-pence, or a ſhilling.

THOUGH neither the fiſh nor the water ſhined, till the water was ſtirred; yet when it was ſtirred and ſhined, the drops that fell continued to ſhine for ſome time, and the children ran about the houſe ſhewing the drops ſhining in the palms of their hands.

THE butler ſtirred up that ſide of the fiſh that was loweſt, and thence came no rays of light; but thoſe turned fiſhes appeared black in the ſhining water. And the water,

after it was fully ſettled and at reſt, which was about an hour after, neither it nor the fiſhes lying in it did ſhine at all.

ON *Thurſday* night we repeated the ſame trial on the ſame fiſhes and liquor, and found the ſame effects. The water gave no light till it was ſtirred, but was thick and muddy, as we ſaw by the foregoing day-light, and then by candle-light; but being gently ſtirred by the hand moving round, as the dairy-maid is uſed to gather the milk into curds for cheeſe, the liquor and fiſhes did all ſhine together.

THE fiſh did then ſhine, as well from the inſide, as from the outſide, and chiefly from the throat, where the inciſion was made to take out garbage, and in ſuch places as were broken in the boiling.

I TOOK a piece that ſhined moſt, and fitted it to my leſſer microſcopes, and alſo to my great microſcope; but I found no light in any of the glaſſes, nor from any drops of the ſhining water, when applied.

ON *Wedneſday* I examined thoſe broken pieces in my great microſcope in the brighteſt ſun-ſhine. At firſt we could find nothing very remarkable on the ſurface of the fiſh in any poſture. After we wound the object plate a turn or two below the juſt diſtance, both others and myſelf thought we ſaw a very thin ſteam, rather darkiſh than luminous, ariſing in the glaſs like a very ſmall duſt, and rarely here and there a very ſmall ſparkle in the fiſh. Of theſe ſparkles I am certain; for we numbered them, and agreed in the number, order, and place of the ſteam. I am not very confident, whether it belongs to our eyes, or imaginations, or to ſome duſt in the air, though it was without doors in the garden, ſo ſmall it was, if it was any thing more than a fancy.

THIS piece of fiſh being fitted to the great microſcope by day-light, was re-examined in the dark of that evening, and it yielded no light at all, either to the view of the glaſs, or otherwiſe: finding it dry, I tried whether by the mixture of ſpittle, or by rubbing, it would ſhine. And ſo it did a very little, not in the glaſs, but to the naked eye; and in very ſmall ſparks, ſuch as ſoon vaniſhed. I collected they were the ſame ſparks, which we ſaw in the ſun-ſhine by the microſcope.

THE fiſh were not yet fetid, and I cauſed two to be kept for further trial on *Thurſday* night. And then they began to be fetid, and I expected more brightneſs, but could find none, either in the water ſtirred, or in the fiſh taken out of the water. I boiled fiſh a fortnight after, and failed of the ſhining. I gueſs, that the mixture of the freſher fiſh and pickle with the former did accelerate and enliven the fermentation for ſhining.

SIR, in the laſt clauſe concerning ſhining mackarels I would note, that I attempted the ſame experiment in the ſame manner in all circumſtances, excepting only, that I did not add another of more recent boiling, as in the former; and I could not obtain any ſhining from the ſecond trial, though I kept ſome of the mackarels till they were very fetid. Every night I tried in vain.

I GUESS at random and ſhot proof, that every frozen body gathers a moiſture in the freezing. This may be tried by incloſing duſt or dried earth in a ſealed glaſs, and then freezing it. If it ſhould convert the incloſed air, or collect the aqueous particles, it is to be added to the other obſervations. If it ſhould add to the weight of the glaſs, it would yet be more ſtrange and remarkable. Thus I fill the ſheet, and am always,

SIR,

your moſt obedient ſervant,

J. B.

SIR, *Yeovell, March* 31, 1666.

IN what I repreſented for you by Mr. *Oldenburg*, for the immediate conveyance of the ſuperabounding blood of healthful young people into the veins of the aged and decayed (if ſuch a way could be deviſed) I had ſpecial regard to the vital ſpirits, and congenial heat, which may poſſibly have in ſome reſpects a more indulgent virtue than mummy, or ſalt of human blood. And the mighty power of imagination may be advanced by the choice of the perſon. This I called tranſanimation, in alluſion to the ſcripture expreſſion, "The life or ſoul is in the blood," which *Selden* interprets of the warm blood in the living animal, which may be part of the ground of the *Noachidal* precept, as if by ſuch nouriſhment we might degrade our ſouls, and become ſavage, or gigantine. Others, as well as myſelf, have obſerved a valetudinary ſympathy, and a change (even of features, more than one would expect) after conjugal enjoyments, and then more eſpecially, when the affections are mutual, tender and entire. When the wife is breeding, the huſband is troubled with the tooth-ach, and unweildy; when ſhe is in labour, he feels pangs, and recovers in her delivery. Thus in ſome. I have offered other inſtances. But more to our purpoſe thus: an aged perſon (above eighty) married a young maid: a ſharp wit gave ſentence, that he was a dead man, and dropped into his grave. I anſwered, that it was rather his reſurrection, or reſtoration. My ſentence hath held true; by her he hath two ſons unſuſpected; hath lately within two years broken his leg twice with falls from his horſe, bore it ſtoutly, and is again recovered, healthful, and more cheerful, and of a freſher countenance, than before this marriage.

SIR, this I remark, as oft as I hear of the caſe, and I think it is remarkable. In the ſalacious it may be otherwiſe.

AND as to the baroſcope; if any ſcales could be deviſed ſo exact, as to take the differing weight of air (of any conſiderable and ſtated breadth) at 30, 29, and 28 inches in the baroſcope, we could thence calculate the particular weight of any column, that is found moſt agreeable for any particular man's health or pleaſure. And till your own accurateneſs ſhall inſtruct us, I dare not confidently affirm, that the aſcent of the mercury does ſtrictly indicate the weight of the air. For mercury is apt to yield to a ſmall degree of heat, and ſeems to boil, before it is tangibly hot. Now if heat ſhould ſwell the mercury, and make it lighter in proportion of bulk, it muſt be ſo much more apt to aſcend higher. And all liquors do alter very much in their weight, as they are warmer or colder. Of this objection I gave notice to Mr. *Oldenburg* ſome months ago.

AND beſides this, the dews amongſt us, when it rains, may (for ought I know) weaken the ſpring of the air, that approacheth the baroſcope, and ſo betray it to give a falſe report of the weight of the whole atmoſphere. For whatſoever hinders or provokes the quick twirlings of thoſe globulous particles, may alter the caſe by a kind of impulſe, or by deadening the force; as it falls out, when the tendereſt ſcales are impelled by a ſtroke of wind, which had leſs weight than the air without it. This may be ſome cauſe of our diſappointments, and put us to a bluſh for the language of our printed obſervations.

I WISH the matter as well tried as might be, by very dampy vapours about the mouth of the baroſcope, or in the cloſet, and then again with charcoal fires, and ſuch pariet works, which do endanger ſuffocation, *&c.*

THE fickleneſs of winds hath alſo given me cauſe to bluſh at my curioſity for half points, *&c.* For my vane is now ſo unſteady, that I can never ſay in what point it is: perchance it is not ſo ambulatory, where the ſpires are far above the neighbouring hills: here the hills are higher.

IN

IN a ſtanch thermometer of 2 feet length, that deſcended not in the hardeſt froſts of theſe two laſt winters below 5 inches; nor aſcended in ſummer (out of the ſun) above 16, I remarked,

Nov. laſt 29, froſt much abated thermometer $6\frac{1}{2}$.

EVENING it leaks, and ſmall rain, thermometer $6\frac{7}{8}$.

Nov. 30, ſnow melts apace before ſun appears, thermometer $7\frac{3}{4}$. This I remarked carefully as a ſtandard, or to be tried in the following winter; ſince which time I have found it freeze quick, when it was above this mark; ſometimes above 8. It was much and often lower in ſome rainy weather, than in ſome froſts.

SIR, may not the hydroſtatic ſettle a ſtandard of heat and cold; as when water is ſo warm as to weigh ſo many ounces *per* pint? *&c.* For a ſtandard of cold rain at firſt fall, ſo much mercury in a bottle of ſuch capacity, ſo many ounces *per* pint; but rain fell here, *Dec.* 19, thermometer $5\frac{1}{4}$; and *Dec.* 26, thermometer $5\frac{3}{4}$; in ſome froſts lately, near $8\frac{1}{2}$ thermometer in a window, heat may adjuſt it: ſome other poiſe rather than mercury, which ſwells.

IF the little *Italian* hydroſtatic were remarked, with ſome regard to the round numbers of drams or ounces *per* pint, it would pleaſe ladies for trials of degrees of heat and cold in liquors, of water, wine, cyder, beer, ale, ſtronger or ſmaller, wood-dried or ſtraw-dried malt, *&c.* and ſerve for profounder uſes.

To another, I ſhould have added above, that if any damps or fumes do alter the weight of air much above the indication it gives in the moſt curious baroſcope over the cloſet; it gives us cauſe to ſuſpect, that it does not indicate the true weight of the atmoſphere.

IN a letter to Mr. *Glanvill*, I ſoftened ſome of the expreſſions, which are in the Tranſactions, numb. 9. pag. 155, more carefully than to Mr. *Oldenburg*, where I did not intend all for the public. And I ſaid, that the magnet was known for ſome properties, 2000 years before any of the wits in the world applied it to find a new world, and mountains of the royal metal. It will not be for our credit, if we ſhall ſtand long at gaze, and find no uſes of the baroſcope.

BUT I have filled this paper, and troubled you too much.

GOD preſerve your health, and proſper you in all your noble ſtudies, and in all things.

SIR,

your moſt obliged, and moſt humble ſervant,

JOHN BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, April* 18, 1666.

I HAVE ſeen enough to give me the confidence to affirm, that you have already laid the foundation of ſolid philoſophy ſo firm and deep, that it can never be ſhaken. And if it ſhall pleaſe God, of his bounty to mankind, to preſerve your health and ſtrength (which is the prayer of all that have taſted the fruit of your labours) in a very few years you will reform all our univerſities, and ſet many thouſands on work, to complete the ſuperſtructures, with all the innated ornaments, and with their moſt valuable efficacies.

BUT ſince you are pleaſed ſtrictly to forbid our applauſes, and do allow me to be your critic, I crave your leave, that I may give myſelf a great delight in viewing how you have methodiſed your unpubliſhed papers.

AFTER you have taught us, with what ſeverity experiments themſelves ſhould be examined and circumſtanced, and what aim we ſhould have for the choice of moſt

conſiderable

conſiderable experiments, and have given us an ample ground-work, your exuberance hath flowed in more ſtreams than we can number, but (as if I thought of the river *Nile*) I will conſider them in ſeven channels.

1. I MUST reſign to your private cabinet thoſe arcana, which you reſerve for your legacy to the Royal Society, and, by them, to the worthieſt of poſterity.

2. THE ſecond place is due to the remaining part of uſefulneſs, by which you ſtop the mouths of impudent ſcoffers, and of thoſe counterfeit zealots, who are ſo unjuſt as to demand the uſe of every line you write; whereas they might ſee ſuch a ſplendid account already publiſhed, and more promiſed; and for their own darling (which hath troubled ſo many wits ſo many ages) they cannot pretend to any ſhew of uſefulneſs. And becauſe this work will grow in your hands, as long as you advance in knowledge, I make it my humble vote, that you would publiſh this by parcel, as it grows up; and to put no full period to it, but to leave it always as the devout *Jews* did their private buildings, unfiniſhed, and for our further expectations.

3. YOUR phyſico-mechanical appendix is moſt nobly introduced, and there alſo you may give us by parcel, as you find leiſure; for here you cannot end, when you ſeem fulleſt: and the ſtatics in general will raiſe a large and moſt inſtructive bulk of philoſophy. And here you lead us to confeſs the firſt Mover, who made all things in order, number and weight; poiſeth the mountains, and agitateth all things, *cribro divino*, by his myſtical ſieve, into their proper natures, and ſeveral regions.

4. YOUR farther explication of qualities will teach all the ſchools better language, convert their verbal quarrels into fruitful deeds, and illuſtrate the whole body of general phyſiology. Nothing can be more powerful to remove and extinguiſh *ſcholarum faſcinum*; *& hoc præſiſcine ſit dictum.*

5. WHEN you ſhall give us your diſcourſe of heat and flame, we ſhall acknowledge, that you alone have accounted for all the elements of old fame, and have given us their juſt names and natures; for heat is our firſt viſible mover, the ſun in the center of this world. When we ſee the ſimple dairy-maid gather her cheeſe by the gentle circling of her induſtrious hand, and obſerve how by compreſſure, ſaline ferment, and runnet, the cheeſe in time becomes hot, inflaming, and animated; and when we note the ſtatic laws, by which the butter is gathered, and ripened into oil and flame; then we ſhall better diſcern, how the holy dove ſat on the waters to produce our originals; and how we are ſtill cheriſhed under the ſoft wings of indulgent providences, and tender mercies, for our new birth and reſtoration: and by this time (by the opening the ſprings of fermentation, gravity and magnetiſm) you will conduct the two rivulets of mechaniſm and chemiſtry into the ocean of theology. We have ſeen you ſtand your ground ſo well upon firmneſs, and ſo ſkilfully divide the waves of fluidity, and ſo happily tranſcend and ſurmount the air, and ſo ſecurely command the æther and fiery boundaries of the world, *flammantia mœnia mundi*, (as of old they called it) that we ſhall not henceforth moleſt ourſelves about the number or nature of the elements.

6. OF your other diſcourſes of the ſeeds of diſguiſes, of improbable truths, or whatever elſe you find of eaſy diſpatch, and ſeaſonable, you may free yourſelf at pleaſure; but we have the immodeſty to be always calling for more, and to take all your intimations for good and ſure promiſes.

7. THE continuation of lord *Bacon*'s *Sylva*, or promiſcuous experiments, will be a pandect to receive all your ſcattered papers, and to reduce them into ſuch a diſorderly order, as falls out oft-times to be better than the beſt method, for all uſes, occaſions, and for immortality. Here you may annex to any piece that is publiſhed, re-examine, enlarge, explicate: here you enter polychreſts, which cannot belong to one head, nor be confined to few heads: here you relieve lord *Bacon*'s *Sylva*, and his *Novum Organum*;

num, which oft-times want your aid. Here you ſhew how much you have advanced, both beyond my lord *Bacon*'s votes, and beyond *Des Cartes*'s eſſays, or imaginations.

SIR, I have ſtrong reaſons to urge, that as ſoon as they amounted to a century, they deſerved to be abroad. For thus you may empty your deſks often, and be leſs overwhelmed with your own abundance: thus you may enforce our dulneſs to apprehend our work, and the ſooner you will ſee us work under your commands. Sir, I have a hard ſentence for you, that (confining to the philoſophical affair) never was man ſo deeply indebted to God as you are: and in the ſame account, never was the world ſo much in debt to any man, as we are to you. But it is not in our power to diſcharge the debt. Only this muſt be your comfort, that as you have a rich mercy in what you have received, ſo you have grounds to expect a great reward from the ſame bountiful hand, for your admirable and ſucceſsful induſtry. For you have opened the eyes of all that love wiſdom, to behold that the works of God are good, and have another luſtre than the notions of the *Gentiles*, or the cavils of malicious men. And the more liberally you ſhall impart your ſtreams, the more briſkly your fountains will overflow. God preſerve you in his beſt favours and mercies.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

MY laſt margin of *March* 31, ſent for you to the poſt-houſe of *Oxford*, repreſents, that heat may be graduated by the hydroſtatic. This I tried, when you firſt communicated the hydroſtatic to me, which was *Feb.* 27, 1663. If true, it cannot be hid from you; if falſe, I am deluded more than once: and poſſibly we may be ſomewhat diſappointed by the ſwelling and leſs weight of the ☿ in the baroſcope in hot weather. I muſt leave this for better examination, *&c.*

Honourable SIR, *April* 28, 1666.

IF you have by this time pardoned my officiouſneſs in ordering your papers, I may now proceed to offer to you ſome very vulgar things, which you will not diſdain, if they may any ways conduce to the diſcovery of the receſſes and labyrinths of nature. This encouraged me to give you an account by Mr. *Oldenburg*, of an experiment, which ſhews what kind of motion, both for figure and celerity or vigour, gives the beginning, progreſs and advancement of light, or flame; and by the ſame view or rule to gather (as it were) into a method the very principles and proceſſes of fermentation, and of vegetation, and of circulation of blood and ſpirits in animals, and of configurations, colours, and ornaments, and their interruptions, both in concrete bodies, and in fluids, all in a kind of mathematical demonſtration.

You were pleaſed to give notice of the profound changes in nature, as they are manifeſted by the dairy-maids gathering of the cheeſe; and yet there is more of art in that than is commonly conſidered. For a ſkilful dairy-maid brings the cheeſe ſooner with her hand, and due timing of it, than an unſkilful maid, though the runnet and other ingredients were all the ſame, and in the ſame proportion. And (beſides the differing heat of the ſeveral hands, which may make ſome difference, and the vigilance and ſkill to drive the circulation in due meaſure, and to cover and put down the curds ariſing about the middle of the veſſel) there is ſomething more, which the wittieſt of them cannot name or deſcribe, or give for rules, which therefore they refer to the luckineſs of the hand. And (to my knowledge) ſome of the beſt ſkilful have at ſome ſeaſons ſo often miſſed of this luckineſs, that they have believingly and confidently

fidently attributed this unluckineſs to witchcraft. Of this I ſhall have ſomewhat to ſay another time.

WHEN clear liquors are but touched in the middle, or ſides, or wherever, their ſeveral undulations will ſhew the circuits and recourſes of the motion, which may be retarded by thickening the liquors with firmer ſubſtances of divers kinds, more eaſy and more difficult to be diſſolved: or the motion may be diverted, or croſſed, or broken in various guiſes by touches in other places. And this may repreſent the progreſs of nature in all configurations, colours, and ornaments, and ſome reaſons of concurrences, yieldings, and diſappointments.

WORT hath a peculiar tranſplendency, when it is not altered with thunder, noiſe, or violent agitation (which turns it into a thickneſs and acidity;) and the bubbles of wort have a peculiar aptneſs to give all the colours of the rainbow more conſpicuouſly, than the dew of the morning: by putting good balm or yeaſt in the middle, or other parts of a broad veſſel, we may diſcern in what lines it begins to work, and when all figures do ſeem to be blended, by moving and ſtirring it with the hand or bowl, and with laving of it, which drives the circulation from the centre, we ſhall ſee the ſtatic laws obſerved; the foam, bubbles, and lighter parts aſcend; and the heavier parts deſcend; and the viſcouſneſs of the yeaſt holds on this operation for ſome time, and keeps the balance in agitation.

So in kneading of bread, the circulation and time of heaving may be obſerved; and when they gather the dough from the outſides, and work it in the middle of the maſs, the liquor and ferment is driven in the ſame manner into all parts of the maſs, though in liquors the lines of the motion are more viſible.

THE country people call the verdant rings, which appear in the paſtures in the ſpring, fairies dances. I have examined very many of them, and though I found ſome few of them perfectly circular, and many of them inclined to be circular in part, yet I ſaw reaſons and proofs enough to perſuade me, that they all proceeded from the dung of cattle, whoſe ſaline vigour by the vernal dews and rain, enlarged its circle, as we ſee in the uſual motion of water; but paſſing more eaſily, where the rankneſs or ſoftneſs of the ground did more eaſily embrace the ſaline liquor, by more obſtinate ground the circle was ſometimes interrupted, and ſometimes it was conſtrained to draw a ſtreight line. The ſame chamletings and undulations we may obſerve from a like cauſe in the grains of timber, ſhapes of plants and flowers, variegations of ſtones, and ſome minerals. I have taken up on the ſhores and land, many ſtones, which being cut, ground, or poliſhed, are a very excellent and beautiful kind of hard marble, ſometimes tough, and white marble interwoven; and ſo perfectly anſwering to theſe undulations, that they needed no other interpretation for the cauſe of thoſe ornaments, than the touch of a child's finger in a pool of water. And thus I have ſometimes obſerved the heart only of a large flint to be a marcaſite, ſometimes the ſtone is only covered or cruſted with marcaſite, as heat drives the ferment from the centre to the circumference in viciſſitudes; or as it falls out to be arreſted by cold, or the repugnance or lazineſs of firmer matter. When I read Sir *K. Digby*'s diſcourſe concerning the vegetation of plants, which I had not heard of till very lately, this thought came into my mind, as in ſome degree helpful to interpret or illuſtrate the cauſes of the peculiar figures, not only of the roots, ſtems, heads and leaves, but alſo of the bloſſoms, fruit, and ſeeds, their colours and other ornaments. And I wiſh that this acute diſcourſe had been divided into diſtinct paragraphs, and each paragraph by himſelf, or by ſuch as bear ſpecial reſpects to his memory, confirmed by the plaineſt or moſt proper experiments; for which purpoſe your ſeveral diſcourſes of Colours, and other qualities, have furniſhed extraordinary aids. Sir, if thus we began ſoftly,

and in vulgar liquids and by obvious examples, we might poſſibly arrive in due time to the configurations of all ſtones, metals, and other ſolids; as by *Euclid*'s firſt elements we are enabled by induſtry and attention, to make a gradual progreſs to his more involved demonſtrations.

I HAD lately a brief *Latin* manuſcript of *a Method, without a guide, to learn all Plants by their Affinities and Differences*, in their roots, ſtems, branches, blades, ſtature, colour, leaves, bloſſoms, fruits, ſeeds, *&c.* I hope my lord *Brereton* hath it yet in his cuſtody. I wiſh it were made public, not only for the purpoſe of the author, which was not unconſiderable, but alſo for the collections of theſe infinite varieties into few heads, as moſt appoſite to receive theſe rules of interpretation. And yourſelf have done abundantly to furniſh vacant perſons (of which our univerſities do afford good ſtore) for the application. And poſſibly when we can clear our apprehenſions of the nature of gravity and levity, it may give us ſome ſatisfaction concerning the ſyſtem of the world. And this I intended by the late words *cribrum divinum*. All motions in nature ſeem to follow the courſe of ſome ferment, and to be ſifted by heat and weight, as we ſee in the farmer's riddling ſieve, *&c.*

SIR, I ſhould take heed of making any overture to you concerning the progreſs or figurations in glaciation; for it is above thirty years ſince I have ſeen the experiment, and then we had a belief, that circulation did increaſe and accelerate the operation of the mixture of ſnow and ſalt. And Mr. *Hook* hath well noted, how glaciation hath given or arreſted ſuch motions, as gave the figures of very many flowers, Microgr. Obſ. 14. But I have filled my paper, and muſt ever remain,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, From *Yeovell* in *Somerſetſhire*, *May* 7, 66.

THE man, whom you accuſe of compliment and poetry, well knows, that you have no leiſure for the beſt ſtrength of his ſeriouſneſs: and ſeriouſly he thinks he hath a better taſte of your depths, than can be defined in the moſt ſober proſe, or painted in the moſt luxuriant verſe.

BUT, Sir, it is for your health and delight, ſometimes to relax the profounder ſtudies, and to take a recreating proſpect for the view of our wanderings, even then, when the beſt of our apprehenſions do ſeem to you no better than poetry and ceremonies.

So does the philoſophical poet adviſe you,

Suave mari magno, turbantibus æquora ventis,
E terrâ magnum alterius ſpectare laborem.
Sed nil dulcius eſt, benè quam munita tenere
Edita doctrinâ ſapientum templa ſerenâ,
Deſpicere unde queas alios, paſſimque videre
Errare, atque viam palenteis quærere vitæ.

SIR, after all this preface, I would account for the ground I have to repreſent, how heat may be graduated by weights. And here I pray you permit me to be ſo poetical, as to indulge my ſweet dream, till a ray of clearer reaſon and evidence ſhall awaken me. For ſome of us have neither heads nor purſes to ſtrengthen our diſcourſes with full and proper experiments.

IN

IN *Feb.* 1663, I noted the float hydroſtatic to deſcend, as the heat of the water increaſed, and to aſcend in the proportion as it cooled. This I tried lately again, and more than once with like event. Then I gueſſed, that ſome peculiar figure of the float, or ſuch more exact hydroſtatic, as you have ſince beſtowed on me, would note the degrees of heat more accurately, and perchance then beſt, when the poiſe is not of ☿, which may expand, and loſe weight (for ought I know) in hot water.

AND although the graduation will not hold to the increaſe of weight in all proportions of cold; yet thus we may diſcover, whether cold doth alleviate before it arrives to glaciation; and thence we may enquire, whether any glaciation doth alleviate to ſuch proportion as may reſemble the coincidence of extremes, when *penetrabile frigus adurit*.

AND I ſee by ſeveral of my own thermometers, that the glaſs-men are by you ſo well inſtructed to make the ſtems in equal proportions, that if we could name ſome degrees of heat by a certain weight, we might by the proportions of the glaſs make our diſcourſes intelligible in mentioning what degrees of cold our greateſt froſts do produce.

THEN I thought, that if rain-water, as ſoon as it fell, might, by a ſingle or double diſtillation, be brought to the ſame degree of purity and fluidity in ſeveral climates, and at differing ſeaſons, thus the degrees of heat might be aſcertained by weight, and the degrees of cold inferred by the equable proportions of a thermometer, that was regularly graduated for heat, *&c. &c.* Here I have not expreſſed myſelf fully, but you will apprehend my aims.

IF we can diſcourſe of heat and cold in their ſeveral degrees, ſo as we may ſignify the ſame degree intelligibly, though it be by any compaſs or juncture of evidences; it is more than our forefathers have taught us to do hitherto.

SIR, I have ſome ſtore of theſe adventures, but this is in preſent a ſufficient interruption. You will bear with me, if I affirm, that one may find more philoſophical demonſtrations, and more liquid proofs of the generations and corruptions, and various alterations of very many things, in ſome vulgar trades and manufactures, than I could gather out of numerous volumes of ſeveral good libraries.

LAST autumn I had leave to ſpend a whole day in obſerving the ſweet chemiſtry of a lady, who is moſt perfect in the art of making marmalades, and conſerving fruit in all their approved colours; and ſhe hath taught me to confeſs the miracles of heat. It is ſure the philoſopher's ſtone, that can do and undo all things; and it is not in the power of orator, or poet, with ink and paper, in proſe, or in verſe, to lay down the proceſs, how to make a good cawdle, poſſet, or pottage.

AND therefore, Sir, if you ſhall taſk me about fermentation, (as you ſeem to threaten) be pleaſed firſt to inſtruct me what operation there is in nature without fermentation, that I may ſingle out my proper object; and be pleaſed to teach me the nature of gravity, before I take the balance in hand, to eſſay the ſtatic laws.

SIR, I am not ſo much an enemy to poſterity, as to expect your returns to ſuch letters as theſe. Only if you ſhall pleaſe to give me your commands by our good friend Mr. *Oldenburg*, you ſhall ſee that I am ſuch a zealous lover of your perſon and buſineſs, that I ſhall rather betray all mine own weakneſs, than forget to be very induſtriouſly,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obedient ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, July* 13, 1666.

I KNOW no other ſhelter from the aprehenſion of our horrid wars, but only by a more ſerious diverſion to theology and philoſophy; that the nearer the horrors do approach us, the more attentively we may indulge theſe retirements, in which you have liberally conferred on me my beſt philoſophical entertainments. For theſe I have a grateful ſenſe; but ſince I am unable to make any return in the like kind, be pleaſed to permit me once more to trifle upon your methods. Of which I have yet ſomewhat to ſay to you, being encouraged in that I did not diſcern that you took any offence, when I ſo lately uſed more boldneſs towards you, than I durſt adventure towards any other perſon, of whatever complexion.

HERE I ſhall deliver my thoughts, in what order your writings, which are already abroad, and thoſe alſo, which are by you intended for the public, ſhould lie.

AND firſt I muſt conſider, that what you have done will never be undertaken again in the whole. Something perchance in time may be added to them; and much may be ſuperſtructed on them; and by parcels they will be recited and applied to other methods; to diſcourſes of all ſorts of mixed and compounded bodies; of vegetables; and of animals: but no man, that hath reaſonableneſs, or ſtrength enough to hold up in any credit or reputation for half an age, will ever attempt the ſame arguments again. And therefore I do earneſtly ſolicit, that you may ſee them publiſhed in ſuch manner, as may be fitted beſt both for libraries, in which they may be preſerved permanently; and alſo for the moſt expedite manual uſe, in readineſs at all times, and at hand both at home and for companions in our travels.

FOR all which purpoſes (in my opinion) it were very convenient, that all the parcels were abroad in quarto, and rather in thinner tomes than in thicker; and I humbly offer my reaſons.

1. THAT bulk is not incongruous for libraries, and more men do find it eaſieſt and handſomeſt for common uſe.

2. SUCH as have defective eyes; and thoſe alſo, who have the beſt and moſt laſting ſight, being neither pore-blind, nor clear ſighted, for great diſtances, nor able to endure much light, nor yet much darkneſs, cannot with eaſe uſe great folios; and are therefore conſtrained to cauſe the book-binders to ſubdivide them into thin and light volumes, that their hands may the better ſupport them to ſuch approaches of their eyes, as may afford the juſteſt proportions of light and ſhadows, as beſt agrees with their ſight.

3. IN ſuch thin volumes, and of that moderate bulk (in quarto) every man may ſort them in a method more agreeable to his own humour and concernments.

4. THAT bulk is fitteſt for the cuts, which ſhould not be in folds, which are ſoon worn out, and are ſubject to many miſchances; but ſhould be in pages, as many as are neceſſary.

5. AND we ſhould have the more care of all accommodations, becauſe of the great difference between experimental philoſophy, and that which is looſely notional. For ſuch writings may be only ſkimmed over, as with the glance of the eye, and one reading may ſuffice for all: but theſe do require a frequent and aſſiduous review, and a kind of incubation, as for innumerable applications, for remoter diſcoveries, and for ſeaſonable inventions upon all imaginable occaſions. And certainly, if a mere liſt of experiments were only ſet down in a naked, but full narrative, a ſmall volume might ſuggeſt for ſerious and long induſtry; ſince every marginal reference might advertiſe of a freſh method by union, parallel, graduation, limitation, and thouſands of other inferences, whereof ſome might prove of comprehenſive and pregnant importances.

And

And a liſt of experiments well choſen will hold out againſt all times, as firmly as any of *Euclid*'s propoſitions.

SIR, the marginal remark is to ſignify, how you may make an hundred experiments ſerve for a thouſand uſes, and eſcape all oppoſitions.

AND now the method, which I do ſoftly and tenderly propoſe, is as followeth.

1. USEFULNESS may be firſt, or laſt, or both. It may be firſt, becauſe in all practical tractates, the end ſhould give the firſt encouragements and directions; and herein you have particulariſed, explicated, appropriated and exemplified thoſe fair encouragements, and affectionate directions, which my lord *Bacon* had in a wide and ſpacious generality eſſayed, or conjecturally propoſed. And then the uſefulneſs will hold on a good claim to the laſt place, or as long as, by our progreſs in philoſophy, we may hope to raiſe any accommodable inventions.

2. OF the Phyſiological Eſſays; the introduction, and the two treatiſes of unſucceſsfulneſs, as preliminary to inſtruct the accurateneſs of experimental obſervations and ſpecifics.

3. THE Origin of Forms and Qualities, which, if in quarto, and in ſuch a cloſe print, as the Phyſiological Eſſays, will make no large ſeparation between thoſe eſſays, and the eſſays of Heat and Flame, which ſhould next ſucceed. For theſe Phyſiological Eſſays do fitly preface for much caution, and frequent examination of the tickliſh operations of fire.

4. HEAT, which is uſually reputed the firſt of the four primary qualities, and is the briſkeſt agent in all motions of generation, corruption, and alteration; and flame, which carries the reputation of the firſt element, as in motion, and upon the very wing for aſcent, do deſerve to lead the reſt, whether qualities, or elements, as they are called.

5. THERMOMETERS, and cold, with the appendages, do claim to ſucceed heat, and to be put into the ſiniſter balance to counterpoiſe the ſwift motion of heat. This in a ſecond edition ſhould be in quarto, and the additions inſerted in their due places, Dr. *Merret*'s diſcourſe being united for a double teſtimony to ſome particulars.

6. HERE ſhould be fluidity and firmneſs, as making up the four primary qualities of old account, not omitting the main of the preface for the ſolicitation of a good correſpondence between the corpuſcularians and chemiſts, and what elſe you have as appendage to the experiments upon ſalt petre.

7. COLOUR and light may lead the qualities more eſpecially attributed to the ſenſes, the ſight being reputed the nobleſt ſenſe, and light a noble nature.

8. HERE whatever elſe you ſhall publiſh of ſubordinate Forms, or of ſecondary Qualities, either according to the order of the ſenſes, or as otherwiſe you find the gradual information (whether manifeſt or occult) better inſtructive. But I ſhould refer it to your own only judgment to place theſe. For who can better order them than he, that can ſo fully diſcover their natures? The peripatetics, by their diſagreeing and clouded notions of mixtions, have put themſelves into ſuch confuſions, that it gave *Wendeline* juſt cauſe to ſay, *Quot phyſicorum ſyſtematum ſunt ſcriptores, tot ferè de ordine qualitatum corporis naturalis ſunt ſententiæ.* Some excluding all qualities from the general affections of bodies natural, therein following *Ariſtotle in libris acroamaticis.* Others aſſuming tangibles, viſibles, and audibles, as the common affections of natural bodies; and referring the objects of odour and guſt to the mixture of their four elements, not to the elements themſelves, nor to the celeſtial bodies, ſay they. As far as I can dive into theſe matters, to me you ſeem to have gone through the hardeſt parts already, and to have cleared the way for the reſt. For ſounds do ſucceed

ceed colours, and odours ſounds; then taſtes, and laſt of all tangibles. And perchance the difficulties and intricacies of their natures are more or leſs, according to this order; ſounds having a difficulty next to colours and the tangible qualities, which belong to the loweſt and dulleſt ſenſe of touch (at leaſt the remaining and ſecondary order of them) being not hard to be explicated. For ſince you have provided us a liquid and ample account of the four chief of tangibles, heat, cold, fluidity, firmneſs, we have hereby a good foundation to be better acquainted with that which they call hardneſs, or the ſtrength or ſtiffneſs of conſiſtence, and with the contrary ſoftneſs; with lentor or toughneſs, and friability; and then the remaining qualities, denſity, and rarity; craſſitude, and tenuity; aridity, and lubricity; aſperity and levity, or ſmoothneſs, have in their notions no abſtruſeneſs, their natures apparently conſiſting in the inequalities, location, ſituation, adheſion, firmneſs, or contexture of parts, as they are ſevered, united, mixed, or abated more or leſs. But to find the operations, which do beget theſe qualities or poſitions in ſeveral mixtures, and which properly belongs to our practical philoſophy, it will require a portion of your ſtrength and light to guide us in it. And if it ſhall pleaſe you to make ſome entrance in this place, to give us the proper motion and vehicle, which carries and embodies ſounds, odours, and taſtes, we ſhould think it reaſonable, that you refer many of the abſtruſities of theſe to the argument of ſenſation, which ſhould follow after the account of vegetation.

To give my reaſon, why I do here place heat, cold, fluidity, firmneſs, which are reputed tangible qualities, before colour and other objects of the nobler ſenſes, and leave other tangible qualities to be ranged after theſe, I ſhall ſay,

1. I DO herein ſubmit and comply with the expectation of ſuch, as do require an account of their four elements, before qualities. For in theſe tractates, as by you they are handled, thoſe men may find more ſatisfaction concerning their elements, than in all their volumes of notional Philoſophy. And in a due ſeaſon, they will be ſhewed the emptineſs and fruitleſſneſs of all former undertakings in philoſophy.

2. HERE was the fitteſt place, and the fulleſt arguments to refute their prejudices, and trifling conceits, concerning ſenſible qualities, which are by demonſtrations of reaſon refuted in your Origin of Forms and Qualities; and in the following tracts more particularly diſcharged, as by manifold demonſtrations of matter of fact.

THIRDLY, and chiefly, we have hereby a more regular opportunity to conſider theſe qualities, according to their true and real natures, and the motions of thoſe particles, by which the ſenſes are affected. And (to ſay it rudely and bluntly) no ſenſe is otherwiſe affected than by touch, as the ſmart of the eye, and the tearing of the ear, as well as the haut gouſt to the noſe and palate, does ſometimes teſtify. Thus much for defence of the method, which I have propoſed for the notion of qualities; but I do more willingly refer it to your own advice.

10. IN the tenth place we ſtand in great want of your explication of gravity. Of which I have not ſeen any hypotheſis, which accounts for all the phænomena, which are obvious. This, if I can obtain leiſure from my importunate engagements in theology, I may chance to repreſent to you more at large, as only to point out where I find the perplexities. To provoke you to this taſk, I will only entreat you to look back upon your works recited, and ſee in what coherence you have given us the firſt view, that ever mankind had of the general body of phyſiology, all publiſhed already, excepting only the account of ſecondary Qualities, which are in your hands. I may add, that we have been diſciplined and accuſtomed to look for the tractate of gravity amongſt the qualities. But I urge it more eſpecially, becauſe it will unite and link together many other of your moſt elaborate works to the forementioned. And perchance

chance it is the very poiſe, which makes the balance dance, or conſtrains the motion in all natural operations. And alſo I conceive it may receive ſome conſiderable aſſiſtance towards the diſcovery of it, from the hydroſtatics, becauſe the tendency and agency, as well for motion as for reſt, (if there be any ſuch thing as reſt in this world) and the co-operation and the reſiſtance of bodies in their ſeveral degrees of gravity, may better be diſcerned in the more viſible fluids, than in the air, which is inviſible. And this poiſe or gravity ſeems to me to lead us into many very large enquiries, both relating in general to the whole ſyſtem of the world, and to many productions in mixtures, and perchance may equally pertain to the mechanical, corpuſcularian, and chemical branches of philoſophy; and to your diſcourſe of Magnetiſms.

11. THE eleventh or next place is due to the Hydroſtatics.

12. THEN your copious phyſico-mechanical Experiments, which do ſeem to perambulate over the moſt ſpacious fields of nature, and to penetrate into her receſſes and labyrinths. And very happily hath the air (which the poets attributed to their proud queen *Juno*, Βοῶπις πότνια Ἥρα) obtained to be the firſt great body, or elementary maſs, that is ſo accurately examined by your incomparable and moſt inquiſitive induſtry.

AND here your adverſary will have the honour to be commemorated in your ſeveral vindications and appendages.

13. AFTER all your phyſico-mechanicals, I ſhould allot this remoter place to your ſceptical Chemiſt, which others (I believe) would place next to the Origin of Forms: but I have already rendered my reaſons, why thoſe treatiſes ſhould not be disjointed, or interrupted: and furthermore thoſe chemical principles have not been ſo generally received in our public ſchools and univerſities, nor do carry ſo high eſtimation in current antiquities, as may claim a ſuperior place, than is here allowed them.

14. AND hereunto may be adjoined the Sceptical Naturaliſt, or the Account of the Imperfections of natural Philoſophy, as we yet have it. Although yourſelf will not only ſurvive, but accompliſh the refutation of that diſcourſe.

15. AND then you have due place for improbable truths.

16. OUR next care would be due to our mother the earth, *tellus mater omnium*, ſaith *Varro*. And here alſo you are beſt able to give us directions to find out the changes, rules, and ferments of the earth for fertility and agriculture. And the treaſures of minerals and medicines, that are locked up, as jewels in the rocks are laid deep in the bowels of the earth; and good directions may be more than a guide on the way for all future diſcoveries. I ſee rags, leather, metals, all things that are caſt out upon the face of the earth, in time reſolve to earth, and then to invigorate liquids to aſpire into all the flouriſhing beauties of the fields and gardens. This travail of ſpirits will bring us to the golden branch, which will be a wand to ſecure our walks through the *Elyſian* groves: and this part of beautiful philoſophy is not neglected, but plentifully cultivated by many hands, and in a fair progreſs towards perfection in time.

AND I have in my late letters mentioned to you a brief manuſcript, which I had from Mr. *Hartlib*, *De cognoſcendis ſine duce herbis*. Probably it may be in your hands, and I wiſh you would take the trouble upon yourſelf to employ ſome well-wiſher (a vacant academician) to tranſlate it into *Engliſh*, and then to beſtow it upon the public, with a preface of your own; and there you might find opportunities, where you pleaſed, to exemplify what you have written of colours and other qualities in that general phyſiology. And this is as the application of the alphabet to reading and learning of words and ſentences. Here, in a little, much (and perchance enough) may be ſoon done. For though old philoſophy wandered far out of the way in notions, yet when they deſcended to particulars, they did not do nothing. Here you can more cloſely

cloſely diſcriminate ſpirits and juices by their ſeveral indications, and call for the proper uſe of the microſcope to diſcover the contextures proper for ſeveral kinds of vegetation. But this you have done already by Mr. *Hook*, who can never get leave to take off his hand from that work, if ingenious men can prevail with him.

18. AND this leads me to the account of the ſenſible plant given by Dr. *Clark*, and Mr. *Hook*; and from thence by a gradual aſcent from vegetables by *Zoophytes* to be prepared for.

19. YOUR two Eſſays concerning the concealments and diſguiſes of the Seeds of living Creatures.

20. AND here, if you in that way can teach us to apprehend ſenſation, it will be more obliging than all that *Ariſtotle* and many modern writers have elaborated, *De animalibus*, or *De piſcibus*, though neither the old induſtry, or the later additions in theſe points be contemptible, but not in their kind admirable.

21. BUT I had rather ſee the Anatomy of Animals by your inſtructions undertaken and publiſhed in effigy with good cuts, than all the outſides alone. Of this I have ſuggeſted ſomething more particularly to Mr. *Oldenburg*, and intended for your ear by his favour and not for a trouble to your eyes: there I do urge reaſons, why this work ſhould be begun upon dogs, and to what ſpecial purpoſes.

SIR, your firſt pardon begot all this confidence; and ſurely you will dive ſo far into my boſom and heart, as to call it the licence of ſincere reſpects and affections. Only I can plead, that no part of this is contradictory to the former. But as in the former I conſulted for your own eaſe; ſo here I ſolicit mine own and univerſal accommodations, which ſeem to make up but one trifling motion, that your works may be printed all in quarto, as being a bulk more conducible to preſerve them all entire ſafe, and for frequent uſe to poſterity. Neither does this exclude or diſcourage the fineſt prints for the pocket.

SIR, I do always pray for the beſt of bleſſings to encourage your great example for a ſtronger influence in a diſſolute age, and I preſent my moſt humble ſervice to the excellent viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and to her generous daughter.

SIR,

your moſt affectionate ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, *Yeovell, July* 30, 1666.

I HAVE need to haſten theſe to deprecate for my laſt unluckineſs. For now I apprehend, that I ſtumbled at the threſhold; which was a fit omen for one that puts his ſickle into another's harveſt.

SURELY your Sceptical Chemiſt ſhould immediately follow your firſt introduction; and take up the place, which the ſcholars do give to their *tria principia*, which do hold us in thick darkneſs for a large tract of their initiating volumes. Here in many rich experiments you give a very ſubſtantial account of the manifold guiſes of their firſt matter (perchance as far as really it can be repreſented, or pretended) you examine all claims to principles, or elements of a fixed number, and give us a clear view of *Miſtion*, both in general, and in leading particulars, and ſhew us how to ſearch the originals of all materials to the utmoſt extent of their capacities.

AND perchance to this you will think fit to adjoin your Sceptical Naturaliſt, which is not yet abroad.

AND then to place the two diſcourſes of Unſucceſsfulneſs, becauſe they warn us of an extraordinary accurateneſs neceſſary to diſtinguiſh ſome ſimples of like reſemblances; and of the ſtricteſt manner and meaſure, and order of operations.

AFTER theſe difficulties and obſtructions thoroughly by you noted, the Origin of Forms and Qualities will break forth, with a more poſitive, explicit, and refreſhing ſplendor; and call on the reſt to add gradually more rays, as by a continual advancement with freſh examples, and further demonſtrations.

SIR, I could not thank you for your ſtatical baroſcope in my laſt, for I had not then ſeen it. But now I may take the bluſh upon myſelf, for that although you had done it long before I did ſolicit you for it, yet perchance you yielded to the immodeſty of my importunity, in publiſhing it amongſt fragments apart.

YET I think I may excuſe myſelf, and defend your condeſcenſions, if in ſuch leading and pregnant inventions, you ſuffer yourſelf to be provoked both to ſcatter them by parcels, and do alſo conſerve them in the main body of your full diſcourſes. For by this time you have only begun philoſophy to the world; but you are now concerned to carry the ſtream, and to overlook what progreſs others can attempt upon the aids that you have ſo amply adminiſtered.

THIS œconomy we may learn from our moſt dangerous enemies the Jeſuits, who (by theſe arts of dreſſing for the pocket in fine prints the groſſeſt errors) can caſt a miſt to blind the eyes of many wiſe and ſubtil perſons, and obſtruct the brighteſt rays of heavenly truths. In a good cauſe we ſhould try the ſucceſs of the ſame arts.

AND truly I am confident, that by your philoſophy you have converted the very Jeſuits to make ſome recompence for the deſtruction they have ſo long made of mankind, that by their univerſal commerce, inceſſant induſtry, and bottomleſs purſes, we may receive uſeful intelligence, and experimental informations from all parts of the world. This comes into my mind, more eſpecially upon the reading of Philoſophical Tranſactions, num. 14. p. 249. the fifth paragraph, which begets in me the wiſh and hope, that the Jeſuits (who are ſaid to have their reſidence in *China*) would give us the tranſlations of their chief books (old and new) of ſimples, herbs, plants, ſtones, of medicine, chemiſtry, *&c.* For it is like they may ſignify ſome other things than ours do, which follow uncertain traditions for the moſt part. Some of them have obliged us from *America*, and the like, or more they may do from *China*, as your example does guide, inſtruct, and entice them in conſiderable citations.

SIR, after all this adventure, I muſt not be afraid to tell you, that you owe us another clauſe upon your ſtatical baroſcope. For here you eſcape *Hobbes* and *Linus*, and can excel yourſelf in calculating the weight, and aſcent of the air (and mixtures perchance) at another certainty, than by the other way.

HOWEVER, this is my ſtrange way of begging pardon for my former faults. He muſt be a dull man that can forbear it.

SIR, it is almoſt time that you ſhould be altogether free from the manacles and fetters of ſtiff methods, and ſhould take the liberty of the bee, to pick and chooſe (at your own pleaſure) from all the flowers of paradiſe. And you have already not only formed the cells ſufficiently, but you have alſo filled them. But that is not a work, that is to be perfectly completed in this age or in this world. And therefore, ſince the whole is unfeaſible, you have the more obliged us, by conducting us through the moſt neceſſary, the moſt ſubſtantial, and the moſt uſeful parts of it; ſuch as afford us the ſafeſt delight, and the kindeſt entertainment. And every man thinks he could wiſh you more eaſe, and freedom, if once you had rid your hands of your own papers. But I doubt their wiſhes would covenant for impoſſibilities; for ever-flowing ſtreams are not eaſily emptied; and your additions may not out-run the ſpeed of your ama-

nuenſes. But I had rather ſtop your courſe, than drive you on, becauſe I wiſh you firm health, and long days.

AND to invite you to refreſh yourſelf upon your own writings, which may both increaſe your margins, and preſerve you from a worſe waſte of time upon others wanderings, I muſt conclude theſe with a ſtory, *Jul. Scaliger* extols *John Suiſſet* calculator (as he was denominated) for the ſharpeſt, the profoundeſt, and the moſt elaborate writer, that ever the ſun beheld. And they ſay of him, that in the decay of his age, when he would have reviewed his divine works, he fell a weeping exceſſively, becauſe he was not able to underſtand what himſelf had written.

SIR, I do not threaten you with this judgment; for you wrote light, and he wrote darkneſs. But if you do not keep your eye frequently upon your own margins, you may live to find the perfections of grey hairs, which do ſometimes ſteal our own labours and inventions out of our memory: and who elſe will put you in mind of this?

SIR, I do heartily pray for you, and the ever honourable viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*.

Your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, Mr. *Glanvill* wrote to me, that one Dr. *Harmar* had a good *Latin* pen, and an eaſy inclination to tranſlate into *Latin*, that Origin of Forms, *&c.* or Hydroſtatics, or both; I know no more of the man, or of the maſter. This I was deſired to ſay to you.

SIR, *Auguſt* 10, 1666.

LEST you ſhould be deterred by the bulk of the annexed, I may premiſe thus much of recommendations.

THE argument is noble, and both requires and highly deſerves your own advice in the proſecution of it.

THE recited examples are beyond all that I have read or heard of in any age; yet we have been in a manner eye witneſſes to the truth, conduct, and effectualneſs, ſome the moſt dangerous, others the moſt obliging, all very inſtructive, and no leſs conſiderable. And you are perſonally, or (at leaſt) affectionately concerned to make the application.

I HAD preſented it in a better hand (which had alſo afforded the opportunity of a more chaſtiſed ſtile) if I durſt admit an amanuenſis to ſee my boldneſs, or to pry into the deſigns. And here I make promiſe, that I will give you no more troubles in theſe matters.

Honourable Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, if you think fit, Mr. *Oldenburg* can make the whole, or any part more legible.

Incloſed in the preceding.

SIR, *Auguſt* 10, 1666.

I DO not forget, that you have rendered ſufficient reaſons againſt the preſumptuous affectation of methods, and haſty ſyſtems; yet we ſhould alſo take notice of your conceſſions in your Procemial Eſſay, pag. 5. and 6. that there is a uſefulneſs and a ſeaſon for ſyſtems. And certainly, when ſtore of good materials are collected (be it

of

of cement, ſtone, timber, and metals) it will have more uſefulneſs, ornament, and ſtrength, if ſkilfully ordered into a fit building, than in a confuſed heap. Order gives facility and luſtre to every buſineſs. And this may plead for my laſt officiouſneſs.

BUT now I have, with a like freedom, further to ſhew you, that you have performed the hardeſt taſks in philoſophy, and yet you omit, and perchance neglect to reap for yourſelf, and to ſolicit for others, the main benefit and application: Or (to deliver my thoughts in a reſemblance not altogether improper) you have found out the polar uſes of the loadſtone, and the aſſiſtances it offers for navigation; but you have not applied it to diſcover the other world, and to fetch hither the ſilver of *Potoſi* and the gold of *Peru*. This my boldneſs you will the better bear, if you can have patience to receive my explications; and then I hope I ſhall not moleſt you in this kind any more.

WE do ſometimes look about us, and take a proſpect upon the times paſt, that from thence we may deduce a conjecture at the times to come. When we ſee what events have followed; what the cauſes; what conduct hath failed; and what hath ſucceeded; we may thence take the more likely guidance for the preſent, and may be the better aſſured of the future.

UPON this note, I will firſt call to memory, that when I firſt entered into *Cambridge*, the *Ramiſts* were in ſuch great eſteem, that we gave very high rates for ſuch of them as began to be out of print; but within three or four years they fell ſo low in credit, that we might buy them at the rate of tainted fiſh, or *Iriſh* beef; ſhops full in *Cambridge*, and cart-loads in *Sturbridge* fair, at one penny *per* pound. This fell out without the ſolicitation of any party or faction, or other concernment, merely by the prevalence of ſolid truth, and reaſonable diſcourſes. This may ſhew us, that ſome truths are of ſuch worth in their native ſplendor, that they have no need of other dowry. And to this (for our preſent comfort) I may further add, the infinite or vaſt difference of luſtre, which this experimental philoſophy gives in all (and thoſe innumerable) branches of it, much more alluring than all former diſcoveries, which indeed were but notional and fantaſtical.

SOON after, the ſame fate befel *Calviniſm*, in both our univerſities, and yet that claimed the title of Holy Oracles; the uncontroulable myſtery. It was defended by the flouriſh of invincible chairmen, *Collins*, *Prideaux*; by ſwarms of writers, and diſputants, the noiſe of pulpits, all pretences of zeal, and the juncture of many foreign and national correſpondencies. Yet in a ſhort time theſe painted oracles were reputed no better than the horrid riddles of *Sphynx*, or groſſer blaſphemies. And as the *Delphian* Oracle, at the firſt appearance of our Saviour's aurora, ſhrunk from his tripodes, and ſtole to the cottages of trivial witches; ſo did this new doctrine deſert the throne and chairs of the univerſities upon the reſtoration of better antiquities; and hide itſelf in the ſmoke and ſmother of plebeian pulpits.

IF you permit me the boldneſs of my reflections upon theſe two changes; even in thoſe my younger days, theſe *Ramiſtical* dichotomies ſeemed to me like a taylor's ſhears, cutting all our beſt cloth into ſhreds, or rags; and the *Calvinian* doctors, dancing in the circles of their nimble diſtinctions, were as ridiculous, as the maid-morrian and hobby-horſe in a morrice dance.

AND, though thoſe latter did put a countenance of gravity on it, for a while, and maſked their riddles under a vizor of devotion, yet when they found, that the younger ſtudents (ſuch as were ſcarcely graduated) did by the aid of ſtronger arguments, and by the advantage of true and authentic antiquities, ſo far excel the whiffling doctors in their lectures and diſputations, the elder men grew pale at it, and the elder truth

prevailed. I saw those old and rotten standards so often fallen by the sharper hatchets of the youngest graduates, that it may direct and admonish us, not to despise to furnish our younger and swiftly growing academicians, with the store of your well tried weapons; and I am confident, that those froward and disingenious medlers, who do resist and reproach the light, would soon be convinced, that they fight against themselves, and all their own senses, and do pull out their own eyes, as oft as their tongues do wag against your experiments.

SIR, here I would softly insinuate into your ear, that we are not ripe for these successes, nor can have just ground of expectations, till you shall please to draw forth your experiments and observations into hypothesis, such as they do fairly bear, and unite them as far as they give mutual strength, and light, and assistance. For though it be good to learn first to spell well, yet we must not leave off there, nor rest there too long. And I cannot discern a reason, why you should continue so shy of advancing to some positiveness, after so large a view of so many experiments, and such mature experience; and without a series of some propositions, and some systems, it is impossible to carry a strong vogue in our universities; who, when they see the necessity of experimental demonstrations for their conquest (even in language and disputations) will soon and gladly exchange their impertinent volumes for quadrants, rulers, alembics, and curious scales, *&c.* And thus diligent students might be enabled both to understand something aright, and to do something. And thus you draw both the universities to our aid.

MY next note will point out the conduct, which never failed either of success, or of dispatch.

I HAVE formerly hinted unto you, how the *Roman* seminaries, and especially the Jesuits, do infatuate the world, as well by their short manuals, as by their endless volumes; yea much more by their breviaries, than by their tomes: by the grandeur of their volumes they overwhelm or amaze them, that have leisure to dwell in their tents; but by their single sheets they catch him that runneth by. By these they have an opportunity upon every man's moments of leisure; these are the short daggers, which stab to death in every corner of darkness. The shorter and more severed they are, the more are they like wedges to cleave the simple protestant into shivers, according to the proverb, *divide & impera.* And every single dart pierceth deeper than a bundle; and thus every man may be singled out, and taken in his own humour. And thus the chief artists amongst our sectaries (for they are sore wedges also) could cleave us with their invisible darts.

BUT I never saw this stratagem, or ambush, more effectually managed, than by the *Socinians*, who, when their name was odious to all the world, magistrates, and ministers, and all men armed against them, and enraged; when they might say, they had neither holes, as foxes have, nor nests, as birds; neither college, nor glebe, nor revenues, nor shelter, but a mere connivance for a time in *Cracow*, and that also merely upon a design of state, to quell some ecstatic *Anti-trinitarians* by the *Socinian* more sober pretence to stricter reason. Yet in all these distresses and exigencies, by the few or single sheets of their brief manuals, as with poinards, they fell upon all parties, without noise, vapour, challenge, or quarrel; they singled out the strongest and most famous Jesuits, and, as if they had learned the *Ovidian* verse, *Medæa Medæa forem*, they charmed the witch, and pursued them, and almost undermined them in all their coverts. I can look on them only as a bee fastened on the nose of a bear; yet I cannot but esteem them, as the only visible agents, that in time may divide the Jesuits amongst themselves; for I see, that all the subtilest Jesuits that I know, have taken up

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a doſe of their infuſions, even whilſt they rail openly at them; and I dare affirm, that they do perplex them more than all the *Janſeniſts*, which have the beſt of the old *Roman* pretences, ſo many ſwarms, colleges, revenues, and parties, to back them. And we ſee they have laid their hot irons in all parts of *Germany*, got many of the Remonſtrants in the *Low Countries* into their party, and there have their fair printers, and learned advocates, antiquaries, every thing.

CERTAINLY, I ſaw how the *Socinian* ſhreds eſcaped the moſt watchful eye, and the ſevereſt ſearch of the acute archbiſhop *Laud*, and did, at the ſame time, creep into the pockets and boſoms of his moſt intruſted chaplains, and (every where) of ſuch ſecretaries of ſtate, as had learning. Of this I know more than will be eaſily believed.

To leave this odious example (and yet we ſhould not diſdain to learn of our ſharpeſt enemies) I can ſhew it with more unblameable luſtre in the ſucceſſes of *Eraſmus*, whom I take to have written the moſt and the beſt, that ever man wrote; yet almoſt all were firſt ſent abroad in very few ſheets, or ſmall enchiridions, and did infinite good all over the Chriſtian world, to allay the furies of that age, and for the general reſtoration of literature, conſiderable antiquities, and holy truth. To inſiſt on this inſtance more explicitly, and more particularly. If *Varro*, amongſt the Gentiles, and *Origen*, amongſt Chriſtians, wrote more than *Eraſmus* did, yet the remains of *Eraſmus* amounted to ten tomes of large and full folios in a pretty cloſe print, as himſelf collected them, or computed them eleven years before he died; beſides that many of his beſt approved compoſitions were loſt by fraud or negligence, as himſelf then complained; and he ſays himſelf had burnt ſuch of his letters, as he could recover, which were then almoſt two cart loads. *Epiſtolarum tantum ſcripſimus, & hodie ſcribimus, ut oneri ferendo vix duo plauſtra paria ſint futura: ipſe multas caſu nactus exuſſi, nam ſenſi ſervari à compluribus.* But a full tome of his letters have eſcaped, and do remain a monument, not only of the glory due to that man, but alſo of the glory due to the princes and potentates of that late age. For there we find it amply recorded, and ſpecified, how freely, and familiarly, and ingenuouſly, this man of plebeian birth, and of very ſlender fortunes, (as himſelf would have it) held for many years, even for almoſt half an age, as it were, weekly correſpondence with all the popes, emperors, kings, cardinals, princes, miniſters of ſtate, minions of fortune, and with all the eminently learned, with ſuch unbiaſſed ſincerity, as if he ſcorned all intereſts, and diſdained to glance a ſmiling eye upon ſecular greatneſs.

THIS man with great judgment gave us the choiceſt of *Grecian* and *Roman* antiquities, for all the ornaments and uſes of philology, morality, and true theology: reſtored the beſt of the Gentiles, as well as of Chriſtian fathers, to themſelves, recovering them from duſt, worms, and worſe-defacing ſcribes, into the light of the faireſt impreſſions; and with his ſmart apologies, ſmiling reprehenſions, and healing laſhes, conſtrained all the neſts of lazy monks, as well as the ſwarms of over-buſy ſectaries, to attend to a ſerious reformation, as well of literature and manners, as of faith and notions. We ſee how ſeverely he inſtituted the lives of princes, diſſuaded their raſh wars, rebuked the inſolence of prelates, detected the hypocriſy of indulgences, fiſh-devotion, and plundering beggary. Laſtly, we ſee how ſtoutly, on the one hand, he confuted the fopperies of the *Roman* friers, and, on the other hand, ſtrangled the confidences of *Luther* and his followers, his *ſervum arbitrium, effete faith, &c.*

SIR, he deſerves our records and eulogies for this peculiar remark, that in all his immenſe volumes he did not let fall one line in applauſe, or in defence of thoſe notional phyſico-logics, which are now exterminated by the brightneſs of your experiments.

ments. Neither was it poſſible that he could have done ſo much, and ſo well, if he had ſuffered himſelf to be ſeduced out of his way by that *ignis fatuus*.

AND yet (more to our purpoſe) we may remark, by what expedients he became ſo voluminous, and by what conduct ſo effectual: truly by flying all abroad in ſmall parcels, almoſt in ſingle ſheets. And this was the only poſſible way to write and publiſh ſo much, and yet to live ſo long. Yet his age was not great, and that was interrupted and contracted by the two horrid tormentors, the gout and the ſtone.

SIR, if you caſt your eye upon his own catalogues, either that which he collected at the requeſt of Dr. *Botzheme*, Cal. *Feb.* 1524; or that which he ſent to *Hector Boetius*, the *Scotſman*, not long before his death (he died *July* 11, 1536) you will there ſee, that generally a dozen or a ſcore (ſometimes half a hundred of his printed books) make not ſo much in bulk as ſome one of your elaborate volumes; beſides that his writings are for the moſt part extracts, or ſpun out of the workings of his own ſpirits, or deſcants upon others writings; yours are coſtly, laborious, and ſearching experiments, all of freſh inventions.

HERE you may behold the odd cauſe *Naudæus* had to enroll this voluminous man amongſt them, that have acquired the greateſt ſplendor and glory, by ſmalleſt enchiridia, and gives him amongſt others the eulogy of *Cornelius Gallus*:

Nec minus eſt nobis per pauca volumina famæ,
Quàm quos nulla ſatis bibliotheca capit.

He deſigned and ſent out ſmall parcels, and time and opportunities made them large and many.

THE biggeſt of *Eraſmus*'s volumes are his Adagies, and his Notes on the New Teſtament, and his Paraphraſe as big as the former; yet theſe did abundantly oblige and inſtruct, as they were firſt ſpread all abroad in ſmall parcels, the Adagies ſtill encreaſing as faſt as the former editions were ſold off.

ERASMUS perſonates an objection againſt himſelf, and provides you an anſwer, if henceforth you ſhall think fit to embrace his example.

Porro quod quereris exhauriri loculos, quod eundem librum cogaris identidem emere, ita rationem apud te ineas. Finge nunc primum prodiiſſe proverbiorum opus, ac me protinus ab opere vulgato mortem oppetiiſſe. Num futurum eſſet, ut te pœniteret impendii?—Jam & illud mihi finge, me poſt annos aliquot revivifcere, ſimulque opus idem mecum renaſci melius, ac locupletius, utrum deplorares diſpendium, an ſimul & amico, & amici monumento gratulareris! Jam ſcio quid dicas, redivivo quidem gratularer, at non eſt quod fingis. Utrum igitur tu judicas felicius, à morte revivifcere, an non mori? Si gratulareris redivivo, multo magis gratulare ſuperſtiti. Poſtremo, ſi poſtrema editio nihil habet novo pretio dignum, liberum eſt non emere; ſi habet, lucrum eſt, non diſpendium. Si prior editio fructum attulit tantilla pecunia dignum, & ſi poſterior idem facit, nimirum auctus es gemino lucro, non mulctatus es damno. Imo quemadmodum ipſi hoc ſemper agimus, dum vivimus, ut nobis ipſis reddamur meliores, ita non prius deſinemus noſtras lucubrationes elimatiores, ac locupletiores reddere, quam deſinemus vivere. This is the laſt part of a juſt and full anſwer.

AND he adds, *Quanquam ipſe jam dudum ingenue faſſus ſum me hic indiligentiorem eſſe, quam par eſt, ſed interim alii meâ ſententiâ gravius peccant, qui cum ſint longe doctiores, ſuperſtitione quadam aut nihil edunt, aut ſero.*

SIR, this great example had the ſucceſs to prevail againſt all the national factions in the Chriſtian world, to rouſe up all the idle friers, and to make way for ingenuous literature and truth. And it is apparent, that all the good that the Jeſuits have, they had it from *Eraſmus*. By him they retained more truth from the *Greek* fathers,

and their doctrines, than from the later ſchoolmen, or from *Auſtin* himſelf, or any of the later *Romans*, or their many orders: and the wiſeſt and learnedeſt of Proteſtants do make the ſame acknowledgments for themſelves. See his *Hyperaſpiſtæ*.

Now I crave leave to open the benefits of this kind of conduct, and the reaſons of the ſucceſs, applied promiſcuouſly to all that is aboveſaid.

1. IT is the ſweeteſt entertainment of life, and both a ſpur and a refreſhment to human induſtry, if we give ſpeedy vent to our freſheſt diſcoveries, which will drive on the pen with a grateful impetuoſity, and it will ſomewhat regratify our ſpirits, to ſee the ſpeedy reception amongſt the ingenuous.

2. THAT every piece becomes more perfect, as being examined in ſmall parts; and a diamond is eaſier poliſhed than a rock.

3. AND thus alſo it is made more perfect by the reſults taken upon all other judgments, and by gradual increaſes: the diamond thus grows more ſolid, by the aſſiduous increaſe of diſtillations in ſuch leiſure, as may beſt receive firmeſt induration from the ambient air, or penetrating ſteams.

4. IT is dangerous to health, nor can any mortal long hold out to fill up ſuch large and elaborate volumes, as you have already publiſhed, except he allows himſelf fit intervals, and forbears, till he be carried with the delight and impulſion of his own ſpirit.

5. SUCH due reſts do fill up the ſpirit, and make it more pregnant for the ſublimeſt and moſt excellent inventions.

6. IT is impoſſible that we ſhould keep our memories firm for our own improvements, if by theſe ſtrong impreſſions, renewals, ruminations, and inculcations, they ſhould not be fortified.

7. THUS we may refreſh our latter days upon our younger delights, which lord *Bacon* recounts amongſt the ſpecial helps to longevity.

8. IN all the heaps of miſguiding libraries, you can ſcarce find any other diverſion for your ſpirit, but will be confined to vent, renew, or complete your own. You have only *Des Cartes*, lord *Bacon*'s good wiſhes, ſome few honeſt chemiſts, and modern diſcoveries in aſtronomy, anatomy, *&c.* What are all theſe, if compared with one St. *Auſtin* for bulk?

9. IF in ſmall volumes, many would lay hold on the opportunities, and could find the leiſure to tranſlate them into the elegancies of the modern languages, yourſelf ſurviving to be the judge and umpire, whether truly and faithfully tranſlated, and to procure their emendations.

10. EVERY man, that plants vines or olives, takes delight to ſee the yearly growth of his plantations. You have planted groves of olives and vineyards in all climates. Can it diſpleaſe you to ſee them proſper and flouriſh every where, and ſome of your own fruit gratefully preſented to you from all places, and their liquor in ſeveral ferments? You would ſoon find a conſtant and perpetual recourſe of all rivers to the ocean. The returns would outrun the ſun and moon.

AND this (as I told you at the beginning) is the due application of the loadſtone for *Potoſi* and *Peru*.

HENCE you will conſult which of your works, that are publiſhed, are fit to be enlarged, which are compleated, and fit to be tranſlated, not only into *Latin*, but into the chief modern languages (at leaſt of our neighbourhood) *French*, *Italian*, *German*, *Spaniſh*; which of thoſe under your hand are fitteſt to go abroad in brief tracts, and in what order they ſhould be conſerved in your fuller tomes.

SIR, after this tedious induction, can you permit me to review your works with ſome reflections to this purpoſe?

THE

THE beſt of *Roman* orators made uſe of one, that was once his ſlave, to criticiſe and to methodiſe his volumes. And *Eraſmus* made it his wiſh, *Optarem mihi tyronem quempiam fidum, qui hoc mihi vita defuncto præſtet, quod ille ſuo Ciceroni.*

SIR, to you I offer it (as he to his maſter) that you may ſee the danger of truſting to another's ordering of your writings; and that you may conſider the neceſſity of uſing your own judgment, whilſt it is in your power.

1. INTO the firſt tome I would collect all your devotionals, that are merely ſuch; as Seraphic Love; the Stile of the Holy Scriptures; Occaſional Meditations, *&c.* whatſoever your ſabbatical meditations do produce. But (to ſay truth) your philoſophy, as far as it contemplates the ſyſtem or frame of the world, as the work of God's hand, and with purpoſe to give God the glory, is the office and liturgy of the old ſabbath, and ſhall be of the everlaſting ſabbath; and, agreeable to the ſong of the angels, as ſome of the ancient fathers have called the 104th pſalm. It is our ſhame, that we have ſo many controverſal books, and ſhallow deductions in the proteſtant churches, and ſo few that are truly and ſolidly framed to compoſe our ſpirits for devotion, and to allay our diſtempers, and to beget in us the love of God, of our neighbours, a peaceable, contented, and quiet mind.

2. FOR the ſecond tome, your Uſefulneſs already publiſhed is complete and full enough, and very fit to antidote philoſophers with the preliminary demonſtration, or acknowledgment of the architectonical principle.

3. THE ſecond part of the ſecond ſection of Uſefulneſs, I hope, and believe, will make up a third tome.

4. THE Procœmial Eſſay, the Sceptical Chemiſt, the Sceptical Naturaliſt, the two Eſſays of Unſucceſsfulneſs, and the Diſcourſe of Improbable Truths, do ſeem proper to be annexed for a fourth tome. And of theſe, the Sceptical Naturaliſt, and Improbable Truths, may come abroad in ſeveral parcels apart, as to the purpoſe we have above ſolicited, in ſmall print.

5. THE Origin of Forms, and Qualities, and the Hiſtorical Dialogues concerning Heat and Flame, if you ſhall pleaſe to ſpecify freely out of your own proceſſes and collections, the ſeveral operations of Heat upon ſeveral objects, and in ſeveral degrees, and after ſeveral admiſſions of air, or intervals of time, and with applications of various kinds of menſtruums, will certainly complete a fifth tome.

6. THERMOMETERS, Hiſtory of Cold, Antiperiſtaſis, and other appendages, with the growing additions, will ſoon enlarge a ſixth tome.

7. THE Eſſays of Salt-petre, Fluidity, and Firmneſs, if you ſhall pleaſe to purſue their adjuncts, moiſture, petrification, and other kinds of induration, *&c.* may ſoon grow to a ſeventh tome.

8. HISTORY of Colours and Light will ſurely increaſe upon your review; and I believe all the ingenious do deſire to ſee the reſt of your experiments on that argument, and the reſult of your judgment upon Mr. *Hook*'s Obſervations, 9th, 10th, and 36th Micogr. and applied in ſome particulars to vegetables, that at leaſt we may have ſome better account than of old, concerning the verdure of graſs, and moſt leaves; the various beauties of flowers, and the changes of fruit in the degrees of maturity, and in relation to ſmell, taſte, or other qualities. And truly (as I ſaid above) I cannot conceive why you ſhould ſcruple to publiſh poſitively your own apprehenſions of the nature and cauſes of light, and all colours, ſimple, compound, and de-compounded: and it is pity, ſince you have gone ſo far in the main work, but that all that pertains to viſion, ſhould lie together in one body by your choice and collections: this for the eighth tome.

9. YOUR

9. YOUR ninth tome may take in whatſoever you ſhall pleaſe to confer more upon us concerning ſubordinate Forms, Sounds, Odors, *&c.* or other deductions from the figure, ſize, texture, motion, reſt, weight, or ſtate, or affections of matter in general, or in peculiar mixtures; and your notes about Occult Qualities. Here you have a fair field to appear abroad in many ſmall parcels; ſome of them taking up but a week, a fortnight, or a month of your time; and you know there are twelve months in a year for your encouragement.

10. THE Spring of the Air, and againſt *Hobbes* and *Hall*, make the tenth tome.

11. HYDROSTATICAL Paradoxes, and the Appendix Phyſico-Mechanical, make the eleventh tome.

12. WHAT directions you ſhall give us concerning mineral earths, compoſts, or impregnating earths, or ſalts; concerning vegetables, ſenſation, nutrition, or other animal faculties, anatomies, how much they may increaſe, I muſt leave it in the hands of God, and to time, and your opportunities. But here again is a threefold field, or rather paradiſe, for your entertainment in every broken month, and for ſmall parcels; and this may call to your remembrance the diſguiſes of ſeeds, of living creatures, *&c.*

13. THE pandects, or promiſcuous experiments, do ſeem to promiſe a larger bulk than any of the other. And I would earneſtly diſſuade from publiſhing more than a century at a time; for all the reaſons above rendered, and more eſpecially for the immenſe extent of the importance of a ſmall number of theſe collections in the ſeverity of your choice; and they may eaſily overwhelm an ordinary induſtry, and confound memory. When theſe are in your thoughts, I hope you will ſometimes caſt your eye upon lord *Bacon*'s *Novum Organum*, and give him ſome aid for his kindneſs and ſolicitude. By thirty of your experiments, you may lift his head above the waters, and ſave him from the *Lethean* lake, as the poets call it.

14. THE fourteenth tome waits for your Arcana.

15. AND I may put you in mind to collect and preſerve ſuch of your letters, as do direct and ſolicit philoſophy; for upon ſuch records they will do the ſame work every where over and over, and in following ages. It is indeed fit to be a poſthume work, but it requires our ſerious care in your life-time, as we ſee by the ſad examples of the great wrong done to excellent perſons, by after handling; as *Scaliger* and lord *Bacon*, amongſt many others, may juſtly complain. Your own amanuenſis, and your own directions, are the beſt conſervatories of theſe; and you may then expunge and enlarge, as you ſee it of public conducement. But where are Sir *William Petty*'s duplicates?

I MAY now preſs on my particular requeſts.

1. BE pleaſed to correct theſe my faults, by directing your amanuenſis to reduce your works into ſuch order, as yourſelf can approve: for upon the frequent view of them, you will find much more of refreſhment and encouragement, in what you have accompliſhed, than cumber of taſks in your way.

2. YOU know them that can well tranſlate your Sceptical Chemiſt, and ſuch like, into the *German* tongue; and ſome of your tracts into good *French*; and there are ſtore that will clothe them in elegant *Italian*; and there is much more than men are aware of in it, to have our light and inſtructions in the ornament of our native language.

WHILST I write this, I receive your Frigorific Experiment, numb. 15. which puts me to the poet's anſwer, *Qui monet, ut facias.* That Experiment, and your Statical Baroſcope of numb. 14. and the Heads for the Natural Hiſtory, numb. 11. do very well deſerve to be enlarged for peculiar treatiſes; for they are leading and pregnant:

and though I think we are now ſure and ſafe of a perpetual progreſs in this philoſophy, yet the diſpatch of it is our comfort; and theſe ſhort Eſſays do bring a quick return, and awaken our own countrymen, and our univerſities, the more rouſingly, when, by the benefit of tranſlations, the echo of reputation comes from the moſt famous of foreigners; which is the only remedy againſt envy, whoſe black tooth ſpares none of the living, till they are turned to aſhes. And this I account the moſt pertinent eulogy, that I can raiſe for the reputation of the Royal Society, and chiefly from your laborioufneſs; that you have given an enforcing example, and a ſpirit to the very Jeſuits to oblige mankind; and have found and ſolicited noble enterpriſes, ſuch as may become their innumerable ſociety, their univerſal commerce, and may engage their inexhauſtible treaſures. To find out the true longitude, to correct all maps of topography, to make the world better acquainted with the heavens, ſtars and planets; with all minerals, terreſtrial concretes, ſimples, vegetables, *&c.* The *Socinian* frets their conſciences (in ſuch as have conſciences) inwardly, and you call them out to ſhew their faith by their works. *Hoc age.* Sir, you know the hand; I wiſh you could read it, and my heart in it.

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *London, Oct.* 31, 1666.

I MISS you here, and deplore my unhappineſs in it. But you are better employed; the Uſefulneſs will ſtop the worſt mouths that the devil can open againſt us; and will be the beſt apology for us of the clergy, better than a hiſtory, which is yet lazy, and much wanting. Mr. *Glanvill* intendeth ſomething theologically in defence of the emergent providences for the ſeaſon of all ages, and of the gifts of God's holy ſpirit for inventions to the benefit of the worthy againſt atheiſts and ſcoffers. And he hath a flowry pen, and may do well, if we can ballaſt him from *Origenian* Platoniſm and extravagant adventures. To which purpoſe I have given him the trouble of much ſcribble, and ſuggeſtions, both hiſtorical and prudential, which he ſeems to accept of, and profeſſeth conformity: but his genius is apt for ſublime adventures. I conceive very great hopes of Mr. *Parker*, but I do always wiſh, that ſuch juvenile felicities could receive a contemperament for their conduct from ſome that are better ſeaſoned by longer time. This gives the beſt abilities the benefit of a collegiate ſociety.

SIR, I have moleſted you with many cumberſome and unlegible papers; but I had this encouragement, that they were once for all, and perchance ſomewhat your concernment in the ſucceſs of your wonderful and moſt obliging induſtry.

SIR, I have moved Mr. *Oldenburg* to find a way to uſe Sir *Robert Atkins* the recorder of *Briſtol*, and what means elſe he could to frequent the correſpondence with our *American* plantations, and more particularly with *New England*, amongſt whom there is ſome fear of God, but too notional in the bulk of wavering creeds. They may grow as we do ſhrink. They are the granary, and huſbandmen for all other colonies. They begin for an univerſity, and by the paucity of ſeducing libraries, and the neceſſity of uſeful and accommodable ſupplies, may be at leiſure to be imbued with our ſuggeſtions. And it is fit to put new wine in new veſſels.

SIR, in your Uſefulneſs I beg your thoughts on the baroſcope, with accounts for the food and breath of life, and yet is unintelligible, neither yet can we particulariſe the gravity, till it be ſtated by the help of your excellent balance: by which at leaſt we may have tables to inſtruct us, to aſſume poſitively how high ſuch air of ſuch weight would aſcend. And when the proportions are taken from ſeveral heights, that are certainly known, and exactly meaſured in the time of the ſame ſtate, we may then ſay how far it does extend, ſuppoſing the ſpring of air to take the ſame meaſure of liberty

liberty of the like diſtance. And as for the expanſion, which air may take, when it is of perfect freedom, it cannot more juſtly denominate the place air, than a drop of ſack can denominate a tun of water wine.

BUT, Sir, I ſhould have more care of your buſineſs, than to give you ſo much trouble. I do do always pray for the beſt of God's bleſſings upon all your noble endeavours.

SIR,

your ever obliged,

and moſt affectionate and humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Jan.* 7, 1666.

THIS hot and droughty ſummer you obliged us with a ſpecial and preſent remedy againſt exceſſive heat, for our diet, food, and drink, and other cooling refreſhments. And we have hopes, that out of that rich ſtore-houſe in your dialogue of Heat and Flame, or perchance in your Uſefulneſs, you will furniſh us with remedies againſt cold. This ſharp ſeaſon calls to my mind, that I have ſometimes enquired, 1. What things in nature, or by art, or mechanical contrivance, will retain a warming heat longeſt; or, 2. A melting or ſcorching heat. 3. What will continue or maintain fire longeſt. 4. What will moſt eaſily take fire. 5. What will beſt reſiſt it, or not yield, or be conſumed by it. 6. What will quench it ſooneſt. 7. What will conſerve it for conveyance of animal or vital ſpirits, or transfuſions in it, *&c.* And how to apply any of the reſults for accommodations of art, or for medical, or œconomical, or political uſes, or for philoſophical inſtructions.

AND ſome of this philoſophy I have learned from common practices, and vulgar trades, and it is not eaſy to ſurpaſs ſome of their diſcoveries.

1. I HAVE wondered to ſee joiners uſe leaden pots for their glue, but they ſay lead does retain the heat longer than other metals. It is a cloſe metal, and they do not try golden veſſels. For ſome time I had above 100 lb. in gold for my uſual bedfellow, and I did not diſcern nor obſerve what good or hurt it did me for heat or cold. *Cary*'s warming ſtone promiſed a warmth for ſix or eight hours. If it performed for two or three hours, it was of great uſe for ſtudents in their ſtudies, where chimnies may be hurtful, pans of charcoal dangerous. A ſervant might renew them for many from one kitchen fire or furnace. They may ſupply the abſence of a warm bedfellow, or help to ſweat, when that is medical. I find by ſad experience, how hurtful bright fires, and eſpecially of ſtone coal, are to the eyes. But ſince men are ſo fooliſh as to make dogs their bedfellows, as is not unfrequent, they are ſoon taught to keep what place or poſture we pleaſe, to warm the belly, ſtomach, back, legs, or feet, as required. And I am ſo well aſſured of the transfuſion of vital ſpirits by what I have often obſerved, how grandmothers tranſplant the freſheſt roſes of their little bedfellows into their own cheeks, that I ſhould prefer a young, ſound, and merry dog, before a ſtone or lead. Mr. *Hartlib* told me of ſtoves made cheap about ten years ago. But the ſudden removal from a warm room to a bleak air, or piercing wind, ſhould be forbidden. Who thinks of building a room (for warmth in cold winter, or for coolneſs in ſummer) over a good ſpring, of which we have ſtore in this town, and millions in *England*; and for a long way I note their ſmalleſt ſtreams to run briſk, and to keep all the banks green at ſome diſtance, and unfrozen in our hardeſt froſts. Sir, on *Saturday* laſt at four in the evening, it was a very quick froſt, ſeldom greater: I tried my ſmoking ſpring water taken out of a well at 15 feet deep. In a thermometer

of 20 inches it aſcended from the 4th to the 9th. I ſent my man to try two excellent ſprings, the one raiſed it to 10, the other wanted that warmth by $\frac{1}{4}$. In few ſummer mornings it aſcended above 11. My parlour is low and cool, and in very hot weather it aſcended not above 12 there. On *Friday* morning we had oyſters perfectly frozen, firm ice, not perfectly cloſed. I was glad to have the opportunity to obſerve their poſture, for reaſons which hereafter I may acquaint you. Some I ſtewed, the taſte was not altered, or noting corruption. Some I cauſed to be laid on the ground in a room level with my parlour, both the rooms keeping a coolneſs in ſummer. The froſt yeſterday morning was a very little abated, but then and all this ſpace it did freeze hard, and my thermometer kept the remarks of hard froſts; yet in this room the oyſters were all unfrozen, and full of juice, and alive, and we could not diſcern any change from the beſt reliſh. I thank the neighbouring ſpring for this warmth in thoſe rooms. The ſmoke of that ſpring is not there viſible, but I ſuſpect ſome force of it in damps, and an aptneſs to make my paper moiſt, and to beget moldineſs, and thence I fear inſalubrity and putrefaction, which depreciates the accommodation. I ſhould add, that the ſpring, which in old and common fame is held the beſt, did raiſe the thermometer higheſt; and ſo of the reſt. So that common experience in waſhing and œconomical uſes ſeemed to give ſome ground to fame.

2. To retain a ſtrong fire, the glazier's melting iron is well deviſed. The taylor's gooſe not unfit, and does him double ſervice.

3. To retain fire unconſumed, Sir *H. Plats* hath obliged the fueller. And my couſin *Speke* here hath bountifully obliged *Ilminſter* and his neighbourhood by a black fat earth lately found in his park. But I never ſaw any parallel to a ſea-weed, which we had in *Cambridge* in the mouth of a barrel of the beſt oyſters. It is like there is ſtore of it. It was ſmaller than peaſe-halm, yet it outlaſted two very great fires of their ſea-coal, burning bright in the midſt of the fire. And by a ſtroke of the tongs it fell into the hearth, jingling like metal. It reſembled red hot iron.

4. THIS enquiry is reſolved by gunpowder, and may do worſe.

5. ASBESTRE of old conſerved the remains of noble bodies in their funeral incineration. Can it be made cheaper, and better applied? We have here very thick and fair cups, which bear the fire very well. I know not whether China-ware does better.

6. MILK, they ſay, quencheth ſpeedily: poor *London* and all *England* wanted milk from heaven. Seventhly and laſtly, a good big pitcher of the coarſe earthen ware, very well glazed or leaded, with a ſmall orifice, and well corked, may be ſo ordered, as to carry milk warm from the cow a mile or two. I have too much of this vulgar ſtuff; your ſkill in furnaces and crucibles both promiſe far better things. I hope Mr. *Oldenburg* will ſave you the trouble of reading this.

HONOURABLE Sir, I do always pray for the excellent viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, her noble daughter, and all yours.

Your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

To Mr. OLDENBURG.

SIR, I have altered my purpoſe for the ſuperſcription, as in the front, becauſe you alone can read my frozen hand.

Your ſervant, *B.*

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *Yeovill, Jan.* 24, 1666, *about* 3 *evening.*

I AM further confirmed, that what I desired Mr. *Oldenburg* in three letters, each adding to the former, concerning the warming a habitation (or some rooms at least) by a stream from a tepid spring, in the hardest frost that *England* knows, is considerable. For this last *Wednesday* and *Thursday* we have had such tepid or temperate spring-like weather, that I should not desire much warmer of any time, yet in hottest or warmest time of these days, where the sun had reflections on a wall, my thermometer being also free from wind, stood at $8\frac{1}{2}$ when at the highest. In the coldest time of this winter it ascended speedily from four to ten in good spring water, and perchance it would have ascended higher, if my man had had the patience to stay longer. Then I saw a young child dabbling in a bucket of water, and standing in a very bleak and sharply freezing wind. I bid the child go in to the fire; she answered, that the water was warm, and she stayed there to keep her hands warm. Thereupon I used the thermometer.

1. SOME have ponds in leads on their house tops. I guess, that a far better use may be made of water there, at far less charges, if from a tepid fountain it gushed out there into a small receiver, where without stay it were swiftly carried for the foresaid purpose.

2. AND if I were not a very soft and lazy traveller, I would try what springs and waters you have at your *Stalbridge*, and how far applicable to these cogitations.

3. SIR, the last affliction which I gave you, relates in one point to these your true thermometers. Many do not know of them, or where to obtain good, and perfect at a certainty. Few are well awakened to apply all the uses of them. And perchance they may be brought to some near approach for a standard, by your experiment of sal armoniac, or other your assistances, and an assiduous practice in the glass-house.

4. THEY may have some use in the transfusion of blood and other liquors, and it will oblige us, if we may be informed what difference in the heat of blood of several animals; and of milk gushing out with the same celerity. It will direct you to fit the mixtures of milk, spirit of wine, *&c.* And the butchers at easy terms may give us the proportion of blood in several animals, fat and lean, wound and sick, by weighing them before and after the effusion, all apart unseparated.

5. THERE you may try the old fame, whether any or all dead bodies are so much more ponderous than the living.

6. POSSIBLY a peacock may grow more weighty some days after roasting than at first, by relenting and drawing a moisture. But it is hard to believe, that a peacock will keep unputrified a whole year, (or as some have not been ashamed to deliver) above thirty years, and under ground also: sweet and sound, as new killed. St. *Austin de civ. Dei.* So *Kirvanides* promiseth.

SUCH animals as are most active, strong, and vigorous, or full of spirits, and vivacious, are generally lightest in the proportion of their bulk, and (as I take it) have least blood.

7. A CAT is lighter than a whelp or dog of the same bigness, and seemeth to have less blood. And Mr. *Hales* your acquaintance in *Eton*, did attribute as near kindred between a cat and a lion, as between ladies beagles and mastiffs. You will now see whether blood will discover kindreds and affinities in animals at any distance.

8. IF my guess at weights should hold good, when other present indications are fair and promising, we may try a horse and greyhound by weights, before we part with our money, or adventure for a wager. A very good and well practised horseman did oft-times tell me, that I did hit the right, when I advised him to buy a full, squat, or well trussed horse for the mill, or market, or cart; a strong and firm sinewed, light,

light, eaſily mounting, and almoſt winged horſe for a ſimple ſaddle, or ſpeed in the race.

BUT I muſt not think of weights, without grief for your matchleſs ſcales. And I wiſh you could give no reſt to artificers, till they furniſh you in a like kind, whilſt all requiſites are in freſh memory.

9. AND in the ſame breath I wiſh, that a number of academicians could not put the ſcales out of their hands, till they have given us a judicious hiſtory of light and weighty bodies, I mean the degrees of gravity in ſeveral bodies.

10. SIR, I have advertiſed Mr. *Oldenburg* of ſome books worthy to take up the beſt printing-preſſes, and always to be continued in print, as well for the ſtationer's profit, as to element the younger ſtudents in uſeful knowledge, or to incline their affections for the beſt. I ſhall here mention the moſt perfect and abſoluteſt pieces of antiquity. *Rei Ruſticæ authores Latini veteres*, *Cato*, *Varro*, *Columella*, *Palladius*, fit to be printed in one of our univerſities, by *Stephens*'s edition. Mr. *Oldenburg* and Mr. *Evelyn* tell me they have that edition. It is ſo hard to be gotten, that Dr. *Benſon* and Dr. *Fell* were two years inquiſitive to get me one, and then they got none but that of *Comeline* in *Duck-lane* by mere chance. And this of *Comeline* is ſo falſe, that I cannot often be ſure of their ſenſe. We have an unhappy cauſe, that gives us the opportunity of taking up the preſs, to prevent impertinencies; and thus we may undermine our perverſe accuſers, and make antidotes againſt all the force and witchcraft of their ſeducing principles.

11. THE Royal Society have many acute wedges innumerable, as many as there are implements, utenſils, helps of art, or kinds of arts, and inventions, and the impertinent controverſies are very ſoft and looſe timber. It is no hard work to heal the dog in the manger, or to ſilence the ſnarling. And the ſooner it is done, the ſooner you will be a college, and have reſidents enough to collect and put in order all your noble inſtructions, and whatever comes from abſent members.

12. I READ in the Gazette, that a college in *Seville* in *Spain* muſt yield a hundred perſons yearly, that are ſkilful in the art of navigation. Store of ſuch, in both our univerſities, as teach that art, and all parts of mathematics, anatomy, chemiſtry, and all your other engagements, would ſoon carry the ſtream there, and deduce a good part of their revenues into the right channels, and then poor ſcholars would bring home to their parents ſome better ſkill, than to prove two eggs to be three.

I HEARD a perſon of honour, and of good underſtanding, highly extol Sir *Nic. Criſpe*, for ſome influence in making copperas in *England*. Perchance he conſulted for his own profit, and had not much care for the beſt, or beſt way. But when I read in Philoſophical Tranſactions, num. 15. that you could direct the way of making ſal armoniac, though I underſtood not the importance, yet I thought of this applauſe. And I fear you are guilty of hiding ſome hundreds of arts, which would relieve many families, and oblige all his Majeſty's dominions at leaſt, as well in times of war, as of peace. I need not tell you, that he that contributeth any uſeful trade, or artifice, buildeth the faireſt hoſpitals.

SIR, much of this had not moleſted you, if I had not thought it within the power of your commands. I preſume it ought to be ſo, and then it put you to no more trouble, than that word and countenance. I pray God to bleſs you in all your affairs, and in all your relations.

I AM, Sir, your ever importunate, but ever obedient ſervant,

J. BEALE.

I SHOULD

I SHOULD note, that on *Wednesday* and *Thursday* forementioned (being very bright and fair days) my marbles were drowned, never were they wetter, only on *Thursday* morning they began to dry, but as the day grew brighter, the marbles grew moister, the ☿ near 30 inches high. At three afternoon ☿ began to descend, skies darkened, wind arose.

ON *Friday* the rain continued long, ☿ descended near an inch. Thermometer ascended to 9½ near the temper of our springs, and seeming like some cooling rain in summer. So when it is snow on all the hills about us, it dissolves in rain before it falls to ground here, and more frequently in lower vales. Hence I am emboldened to enquire, whether by your opening of the upper, or nether springs, or both, or by steams emitted out of the earth by the same or some collateral and concomitant cause, the freezing cold be not oft-times expelled and subdued. Upon which question I intend in my next to propose a way by your own inventions, to take an ephemeris of all the increase and decrease of springs in quantity of course, heat, *&c.* to the minutest variations. And this I value above a history of tides, such as may be easily obtained.

Honourable SIR, *Jan.* 25, *post mark*, 1666-7.

I TAKE so much delight in the experiment of transfusions, that I find it my duty to congratulate your care, inspection, and successes in it. And, if it be thoroughly prosecuted, it will shew us at a certainty all the proper and acquirable force, and operation of blood, in all varieties of changes, and with all sorts of mixtures for vital functions, for health, strength, courage, activity, appetite, memory, and all mental faculties. If *Lucullus*, and others, who were prodigal of human blood to feed fishes, or for the vain glory of unjust conquests, had seen this experiment, it is like they would have made havock of their slaves, and innocent mortals, for the utmost trials; and perchance the *Mahometan*, if he should now hear of it, would exercise the title of his zeal against *Jews* and Christians, to this collateral purpose. To prevent which, if our laws would permit it, we might with more innocence, and with some degrees of mercy, sacrifice notorious and dangerous malefactors upon the experiment, whether tamer blood might not amend their minds and manners. And perchance it may discover a way to redeem lunatics, and madmen, and the epileptical, some from the chains of *Bethlehem*, and some from the more cruel handlings of chirurgeons and physicians. And I think any ingenious man would rather end his days, than survive his reason; and rather die once for all, than have frequent epileptical returns; and would rather expire in a bath, by effusion of blood, as *Lucan* the poet, and other half-favourites of tyrants did, than to suffer all the tyranny of usual chirurgery. And somewhat may be done without charges by the kindness of our college-bachelors, to discover the causes and potent remedies against the rot in sheep, and other diseases in swine, oxen, *&c.* We cannot foresee all the importance, but certainly it will amount to a fair volume, a large branch of philosophy, as instructive, as pleasant, and as wonderful as ever was published.

SIR, will you permit me (with sincere veneration and hearty affections towards you and all true virtuosi) to harp upon one string, which I had made to grate in your ears many times within these twelve years. Thus it is.

ALL mortals have ever been apt to stand at gaze, and to admire and applaud the wonder for nine days, and then to enlarge it with falsities; but to let the usefulness die in the womb. We see the laziness and stupidity of all mankind, for two thousand years at least, in the neglect both of the theory, and of the inestimable use of the magnet; which teacheth me both to accuse human dulness, and to attribute such weighty inventions

inventions to the immediate inſpiration of God, whoſe providence ordereth all diſcoveries for their due times and ſeaſons. And, in theſe days, God hath by your hand ſummoned us to quicken and to enliven the application. This is our duty, and the office of charity.

YET, ſhall I not ſay it, that ſome of your own moſt wonderful diſcoveries do lie dead, or aſleep. Many of your improvements, of the moſt excellent nature, are yet unpractiſed; and we hang up our plough upon a pin, as old *Chaucer* expreſſeth it, as if it were holiday. Your balance of the air lies unſtated, leſs underſtood, and leſs applied, than it deſerves. The freezing of eyes for anatomy, and other organs of ſenſe, unpurſued, or unpubliſhed. And the microſcope had been only a gaze, if Dr. *Wren*, Dr. *Powel*, and Mr. *Hook*, had not made the application; and ſtill it may produce a ſecular or anniverſary ſupply for anatomy, and to ſhew the ſurface and intrinſic frame of things within our reach in this globe. The beſt teleſcopes have not examined the cauſe of obſcurity in ſome, and of brightneſs in other of the ſtars of the firſt magnitude; nor the approaches, and remoteſt diſtances of ſtars, and many other viſible evidences pertaining to the ſyſtem of the world, and advancing the glory of the Creator much beyond all former acknowledgments.

SIR, I muſt confeſs, that ſo much is done, and excellently performed, as may claim our higheſt applauſes. But that ear is leſs patient than to allow that diſcourſe. Our preſent taſk is to ſay *hoc age*, as of old in the ſacrifices. And it is my peculiar inclination oft-times to call to your mind, that low things, and much vulgar, are the moſt ſpreading obligations. Unclean rags may make fine paper. And the aſhes of ſtones have lately furniſhed more tables, than all the hoſpitals in the world.

SIR, if you ſay this is a ſufficient apology for ſome lines, which I lately intended for you, with a ſecond and third ſupply in following ſcraps of letters, I ſhall rejoice that ſuch weakneſſes can proſper in benevolent and indulgent hands. My ſecond thoughts adviſed me to ſuperſcribe them to Mr. *Oldenburg*, that they may give you no more trouble, than the breviate of his account, or extract. Diſpatch and full communications are the life of the Royal Society, in deſpight of war and *Apollyon*, the grand enemy of all elegant arts, and the deſtroyer of mankind. And if I ſhould not ſometimes preſume upon your patience by ſuch officious offences, I ſhould have leſs need, and you leſs of the habit of granting your pardon to,

SIR,

your moſt humble, and

ever obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, I do always pray for the beſt of God's bleſſings upon you and the moſt excellent viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and all your noble relations.

SIR, I am glad to hear that you do accuſtom the duke of *York* to afford his countenance to the engagements of the Royal Society, that he may acquire a prompt habitude for hereafter. Perchance it is all the coin the court can ſpare.

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *January* 28, 1666.

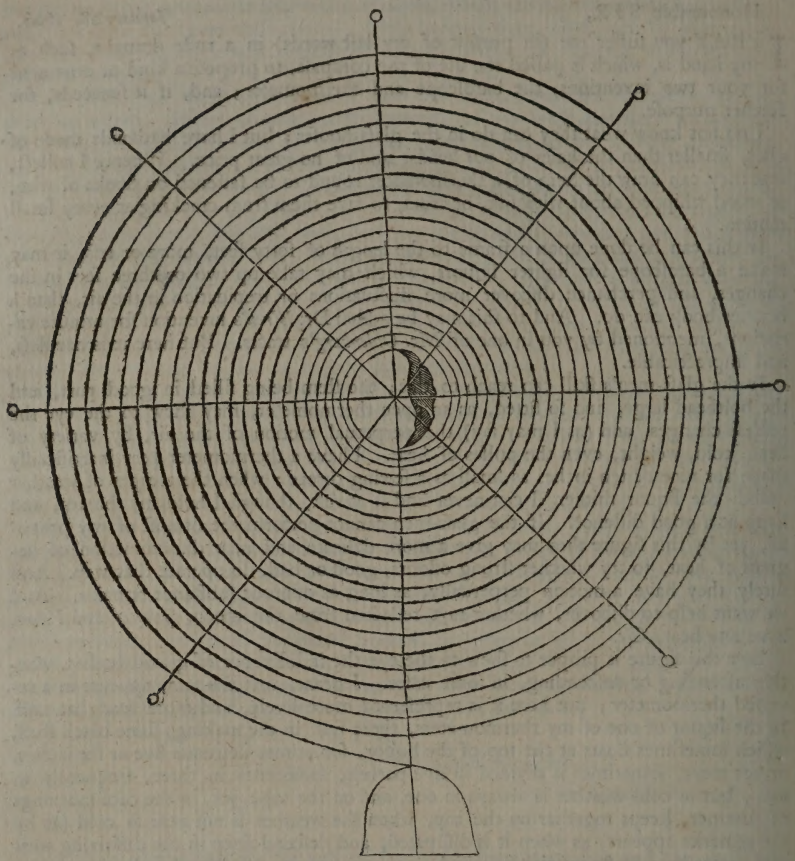
I PRAY you ſuffer me (in purſuit of my laſt words) in a rude draught, ſuch as my hand is, which is paſſed the uſe of the compaſs, to propoſe a kind of ornament for your two inventions, the baroſcope and thermometer; and, if it ſucceeds, for further purpoſe.

I DO not know what they can do in the glaſs-houſes; but I have hatbands made of glaſs, ſmaller than the hairs of our heads, and of no great price. Whence I collect, that they can draw the ſtem of a thermometer round to be faſtened on hooks of wire, or wood whipped about with ſilk, or cruel, to ſave them from cracking at every ſmall motion.

IF this can be done upon a frame to the length of forty feet, more or leſs, it may make a baroſcope for lighter liquors, which may take up two or three feet in the changes, and perchance diſcover more fluctuations or trepidation in the air, than a heavier body can do. And to this may be added Dr. *Wren*'s invention for minute variations, mentioned by you in one of Mr. *Oldenburg*'s tracts. But here it is needleſs, and impracticable.

IF the glaſs-men's ſkill can reach to this; the ſtem being filled in good part, and the bolthead large, and ſo fitted, as an open thermometer, may ſhew to the eye the reſtleſs changes, and (as I may ſay) the perpetual motion of the air, by variety of heat, cold, weight, even the pulſes of heat. I have a thermometer very inartificially made for nine or ten inches as ſmall as a ſewing thread: when the temper of weather raiſeth the liquor thither, I can never find it at reſt, though I hold my breath, and keep at a good diſtance. If the glaſs-men cannot perform the utmoſt of my propoſal, yet by this figure they may give a more delicate and nice diſcrimination of degrees of heat, to try whether ſtrong odours, good or bad, do operate that way. And ſurely they have a motion perpetually, as long as odorous ſubſtance remains. And we want help to diſcover, whether rays reflected from the moon, *Jupiter* and *Venus*, have any heat, *&c.*

BUT this figure is proper to ſhew to the eye the indifference of gravid bodies, whether aſcending or deſcending, in ſome caſes. I grant, that the ſame appears in a reverſed thermometer; but here it is repreſented more lively, and more ready at call. In the liquor of one of my thermometers, there fell (in the making) ſome black ſtuff, which ſometimes floats at the top of the liquor, ſometimes deſcends five or ſix inches, or yet more, ſometimes is divided in five parcels, ſometimes in three, frequently in two; but in cold weather is always in one, and on the top: yet, in the cool mornings of ſummer, keeps together on the top, when the weather is not near ſo cold (as by the remarks appears) as when it is diſſipated, and deſcend deep in the diſſolving weather, after hard froſts in winter, which proves to me an agitation of the liquor, by the motion of all parts, at the change of weather. The very ſame rules this black ſtuff does obey ever ſince I reverſed the glaſs, which hath been about a year. This may ſeem a double proof, that gravid bodies may as naturally aſcend as deſcend, accordingly as they are circumſtanced by the next ambient. If the bubble, which you mention, could eaſily be fitted for thermometers, the evidence would be to many very acceptable, and give a glimpſe of the ſtate of gravity.



I CANNOT deſpiſe their opinion, who conceive the ſun to have an agency, or ſome influence into the cauſes of the perambulation and rotation (where it is) of the earth and planetary globes. The ruſtics (for their ſport) do cut a reſemblance of a hare, hounds, and huntſman, in cards or paper, which being ſupported, or hung by a peg in a frame *in æquilbrio*, round about the inſide of a lanthorn, will all drive a perpetual round as long as any candle burns in the center of the lanthorn. And in fermentations we do generally ſee a circulation, or ſeveral kinds of boglings, as it were, by a mixture of agitations, partly by ſpiral lines, partly by undulations, not mixt otherwiſe than in the motion of ſmoke. And theſe ponderous globes, as they ſwim in the open and wide æther, where there is no real ſurſum or deorſum, but what is relative to our fancy, and where neither air nor æther reſiſts more on any one ſide than

than on another, may, by the ſolar rays, be whirled about more eaſily than we are apt to imagine. And perchance theſe globes are not ſo ponderous as we fancy them to be: we ſee our globe to caſt out her ſails and flags every way in her largeſt and wideſt compaſs; the air, which ſhe emits through all parts of her pulverous or equatic ſurface, hangs in the æther; and the æther and fire, or heat and flame, or other influences of the ſun, do pierce and correſpond ſo deep in the bowels of the earth, that we cannot find the body that makes reſiſtance againſt them. And perchance this cruſt of the earth, the rocks and metalline ribs, which do faſten this globe in a kind of firmneſs, is of no greater thickneſs, or depth, in compariſon of the globe; but may be as the ſhell of an egg, or of an *Indian* nut; and we do not account an egg-ſhell or the ſhell of a nut ponderous, when the egg is ſucked out, or the kernel taken out. Neither do we yet diſcover, whether the bowels of this or other globes be ſolid, or repleniſhed with vapours and ſmoking flames. Neither can I ſay, whether a ponderouſneſs or levity would beſt agree with the ſwiftneſs of theſe perambulations. We ſee children do wind their balls hard, and ſometimes about bullets of lead, to make them rebound the better, and ſuch ponderous bodies do take an enforced flight from an exterior impellent ſwiftneſs; but yet the lightning, which carries a light body through a thin paſſage, is ſwifter.

I SEE little reſt in this world; nor can I affirm, that any parts in gold and diamonds are at perfect reſt: their motion may be ſlow and very lazy. And yet again we muſt deny the motion to be very lazy in a like firm and durable ſubſtance, when in hot countries we ſee the diamond or carbuncle always luminous, and, as it were, in a fiery motion. And in all the motions of parts which we find in the world, I can diſcern no conſtant regard to the Peripatetical center, ſurſum or deorſum.

NEITHER can I affirm, that a ponderous body, deſcending or falling from a tower, deſcends by a line drawn perpendicularly from the circumference to the center: beſides the difference which may be in the deſcent of moſt ponderous bodies, by the wavings of the air, and which muſt be in bodies pervious to air, and yielding to the ſtroke of winds, all the parts of a deſcending body have more kinds and lines of motion than one. Neither have we ſkill to prove or diſprove accurately, that the lines, by which two ſtones may deſcend at ſeveral diſtances from the ſame tower, are perfectly parallel. But if they are parallel, then the Peripatetical definition of gravity is falſe in that point alſo; and the tendency is not perpendicular. So little can we truſt to our eye concerning the queſtion of the motion or fixedneſs of the earth, and leſs to old fame.

SIR, I have tranſgreſſed, and all theſe ſuggeſtions (for aught I know) may be vain in relation to the thermometer; for I am ignorant of the art of filling them. For the other uſes, a few pounds may do more than is yet done; and when a happy hand is well in, he may in time delight to go on.

SIR, here my main drift was at ſomething elſe: we touch the vein, and attend to the pulſe, to diſcover feverous diſtempers, and languid faintings. Thus we may examine the veins and pulſes of this globe, at their iſſues, ſprings, or fountains: whether in their fulneſs or faintings, in their heat or cold, ſaltneſs, or any bituminous, or other mineral affections, they correſpond with any ſolar, or lunary motion, or operation, *&c.* If the ſpring be ſo ſtened, that it hath no outlet but at one only orifice; and to the orifice a pipe deviſed of ſeveral ſmall partitions, one higher than another, the loweſt partition carrying the water out fartheſt, for better diſtinction to the eye; this would ſhew whether the increaſe were mornings or evenings, noon or night, ſpring or autumn. Whether in froſts or diſſolvings, whether fulleſt or freeſt from the ſalt, or mineral, *&c.* By ſuch ways we might chance to find more than we yet know do how to enquire.

SIR, if you can pardon the exceſſes of reſpects and affections, you will pardon this troubleſome officiouſneſs in

your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, *October* 30, 1667.

THERE is abundance of polemical writings, which have obtained the mighty titles of theology and philoſophy, and yet are no way conducing to the glory of God, or to the peace or other benefits of mankind; but do much rather beget the frets of our ſpirits, raiſe our emulations and inſolences, waſte our lives and the precious time, which is deſigned and conſecrated to the nobleſt purpoſes. And, till theſe ſpiders cobwebs be ſwept out of our ſchools and temples, our oblations cannot be clean, our holy chalices will be in danger of poiſon.

BUT who dares be the *Hercules* to undertake this bold and toilſome enterprize! Truly, Sir, theſe your antipolemical writings (as they may juſtly be called, becauſe they clear all points, and put an end to many endleſs controverſies) have ſhewed the way for theology, and have performed the main taſk in philoſophy moſt effectually for us, and for all poſterity.

YOU have for ever expunged and diſmiſſed the firſt matter, old elements, and new and old principles, in your divine Sceptical Chemiſt: and here in your laſt Diſcourſes of Forms and Qualities, you have extricated many labyrinths, and extirpated the very roots and fibres of ſubſtantial forms, and of all diſguiſed and deluding qualities: you have moſt ſolidly laid down the firmneſs of terreſtrials; you have opened the fluidity of liquids, you have meaſured the weight, and examined all the motions, operations, and ſmalleſt particles of air; and fire itſelf (which I may call the knight errant of antiquity) is brought down to offer obeiſance at your command. Sir, you will pardon a poetical alluſion, which is no invention of mine, but as old, and as ſignificant as any Heathen hiſtory. For ſeriouſly, you have not ſuffered the cramps of cold to arreſt us in our dulneſs; nor the velocity of heat, light, or flame to eſcape us. In all which, you have freed the ingenuous from the thraldom of quarrelſome impertinencies, and have purchaſed their leiſure to ſearch out the particulars and excellencies of all nature's bountiful and voluminous diſpenſatory.

BUT, Sir, my own perſonal obligations are very peculiar and extraordinary. I can only ſigh, and wiſh, that I could prove myſelf by ſome demonſtration, ſo fully as I am in my heart,

SIR,

your moſt humble, and
moſt affectionate ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Oct.* 12, 1670.

SOME weeks are paſt, ſince I received from your noble hand a very great favour; ſuch as will oblige all the learned; all that can taſte the lawful and religious delight, which ſhould reſult from beholding the curious and wonderful frame of this our viſible world. It will be my true, but inſufficient excuſe, if I ſay, that it gave me ſuch agreeable entertainment, that I could not eaſily take myſelf off, to render my thankful acknowledgments, till I had four times peruſed the whole, allowing myſelf due reſts and ſeaſonable intervals; and weighing every period, as it were in ſeveral

ral lights; that what was at one time my pomeridian diverſion, was at my next view examined in the morning ſerenity: and this I did with a watchful eye to the malice, that is ſo buſy abroad.

AND now, as far as I have made ſearch into libraries, I muſt pronounce it, and I think I dare undertake it, that theſe and your former writings are the fulleſt and cleareſt interpretation of the divine workmanſhip, that ever yet ſhined in the public light. And I am very confident, that they will remain for ever, in deſpight of all the oppoſitions that malice, envy, and bold ignorance can make againſt them. The trifling objections, which depend upon metaphyſical notions, will vaniſh, merely by extricating their terms, which are as changeable as the moon; or as the *French*, I ſhould ſay, the *Engliſh* mode.

BUT, Sir, you will rather hear what I have to offer or propoſe upon any of your arguments. Whilſt a perſon, whom for many years I have known to be creditable, was reading to me the fifth page of your Coſmical Suſpicions, he ſtopped at the firſt period, which mentions peſtilential ſteams; and, before he knew what more was in that diſcourſe, he told me as followeth; "That he knew a good old woman, aged "near eighty, now deceaſed, who ſaid often, in his hearing, that ſhe could know, "if the plague were within thirty miles of her, by a pain ſhe had in three plague ſores, "which ſores ſhe had in her younger days, before ſhe was married." He forgot to aſk, and could not now gueſs, what her particular aim was in mentioning thirty miles diſtance; but her abode was at ten miles diſtance from *Glouceſter*, ten from *Worceſter*, in the mid-way; twelve from *Hereford*, above thirty from *Shrewſbury*; and by her age ſhe might well remember the plague in all thoſe places, ſeveral times, and in many other places within the foreſaid diſtance.

FOR a diverſion, not far out of the way, I ſhall further acquaint you, that when I was a young ſcholar at *Eton*, the town was infected, the ſcholars fled away, my father was deceaſed, my mother at great diſtance, my other relations in court, and I had no addreſs to any: the houſe in which I abode was ſurrounded with the plague, on both ſides at the next doors: the nature and fame of the diſeaſe begot in me a great horror: in this diſtreſs, I had an impreſſing dream, conſiſting of very many particulars: I told all to the family, and within three days we found every circumſtance true, though very ſtrange, and ſeeming caſual. I foretold who were ſent for me, what coloured horſes, and very ſore accidents, which fell on them in the way. From that time to this, I have regarded ſome dreams in myſelf, and others, not without advantage, by the premonitions. I remarked all that I read on that argument, and other preceptions, omens, *&c.* in philoſophy, and in hiſtories, ſacred and profane. I find theſe hints obſerved of old, and with religion, by all nations, *Greek*, *Roman*, holy, barbarous; and I cannot ſee cauſe, why they ſhould in later ages be rejected out of the ſchools of philoſophy, or of religion. *Ariſtotle* hath his lecture upon dreams, and *Cæſalpinus*, and many others, refer all the myſtery to emanations: etherial intelligents would make all much more eaſy and more agreeable to the holy ſcriptures, old and new, and to eccleſiaſtical hiſtory. *Mede*, in his profound reſearches, found the interpretation of dreams to be the beſt key to unlock the myſteries of prophecies. Another like hint I ſhall offer. Our famous ſchoolmaſter of *Eton*, Mr. *Buſt*, ſpake ſeldom in the ſchools: I think I remember all that he ſpake whilſt I was there. At the prophetic verſe of *Orodes* in *Virgil*, he gave a check for ſilence, and then bade us all remark it, that dying men do commonly propheſy. I have had many occaſions to inculcate and really confirm that early advertiſement, *Naudæus in Bibliog. Polit.* pag. 70. thus: *Cum opinio ſit non futilis quidem illa, aut ridicula, ſed omnium fermè gentium conſenſu firmata——moribundos vaticinari.*——But he expreſſeth it far better with his reaſons, and

and then adds, *Quemadmodum feciſſe dicuntur Patroclus ab Homero, Orodes a Virgilio, & Poſſidonius a Cicerone, &c. &c. Caſaubon* hath much to this purpoſe, Enthuſ. eſpecially c. ii. p. 59, 60. ſecond edit.

I CONCEIVE the aſtrology of the wiſe and ſober in the Eaſt was not fimbriated with the trifles genethliacal, but attended to new and extraordinary apparitions, and waited for many concomitant hints towards the interpretation, and chiefly by dreams, which were then more conſiderable, when ſkilfully diſtinguiſhed from vulgar, and the ſecret art religiouſly ſolicited by collegiate ſtudies of them, whoſe profeſſion it was to be *ſomniorum & prodigiorum interpretes*; for inſtructions to princes, and for public utility. *Abraham* hath in oldeſt monuments a great name for the ſyderal arts; and he and his deſcendants made good uſe of the interpretation of dreams: and our primitive Chriſtians aſſure us, that our Saviour's ſtar was a comet; yet whatever other hints the wiſe men had, they had good directions by dreams. Some comets were *blandi*, ſome *horribiles*; and in the firſt ages, when all diſciplines were traditive by experience (without books and babbling) and perhaps frequently from God and his angels, our longevous parents had a long time to regiſter, and compare the phænomena with the events. If comets were in the firſt ages ſo frequent, as they have been of late, one of thoſe long-lived men might have obſerved at leaſt an hundred and fifty, which number makes a great noiſe for a phyſiological evidence: two or three of our vulgar chronologers being joined together, do number ſixty comets within three hundred years: a diligent cometographer by further enquiry may find out many more in the ſame compaſs of time; and theſe, if they had kept equal diſtance, had been twenty in every century of years, one in every five, and that's no great rarity. But blackneſs or darkneſs within the diſk of the ſun (and without any known eclipſe, and for ſeveral days together, or at leaſt for a longer ſtay than eclipſes can allow) this is a greater rarity; and yet in hiſtory it will occur once in every four or five hundred years. And ſuch portentous ſigns in heaven might juſtly be the blameleſs ſubject of old aſtrology; which, if it had been in *Daniel*'s days (though then perhaps much adulterated) diabolical, or merely ſuperſtitious, *Daniel* ſurely would not have been advocate for the lives, nor the provoſt over the colleges of ſuch aſtrologers. And it is the ſtile of the ſcriptures to threaten judgments by the ſigns of darkneſs in the ſun. This unhiſtorical interpreters turn over to domeſday, which might be the main aim of the prophetical aſpect, but it had always a more literary importance. We may in time hear more of this from the monuments of the *Eaſt*, when they ſhall be better known to us. Whatever the way, or the manner, or the means of it be, we are ſure, that we have a perception at great diſtance, and otherwiſe than by our known ſenſes; and ſometimes a ſecret anticipation of things future, which cannot be without correſpondence with ſome cauſative, whether aereal, more refinedly ethereal, intelligent, or aſtral; whether by any one or other; or all of theſe expedients, we are ſure of the great and ſtrange effects: and when we ſee, how quickly the ſun-beams do paſs to the borders of this vertex, we may well imagine, that our ſpirits may hold an intercourſe at like diſtance, with equal diſpatch, in mental and ſpiritual affairs.

AND I doubt we are more ſure of the truth, than of the cauſes of the returns in the ſeveral kinds of agues; of the reſort of humours to green wounds the third or fourth day; of divers periodical diſeaſes, more than have been hitherto named; of critical days, and of climacterical broodings; I ſay broodings, becauſe I apprehend it, and have deduced it from manifold obſervations, that thoſe years are tender, and by miſconduct fatal; but by ſalubrious applications may revive, and repleniſh the furnaces, and fuel of vital flame; and may redintegrate and corroborate the web of our complexions and conſtitutions.

SIR,

SIR, I have many other appendant (and perhaps better and deeper) thoughts, but I have need to beg pardon for this prolixity. And it is time I ſhould conſider, that I ought to prefer the gift you ſent me above a rich medal from ſome great monarch, both for the perſonal reſpects I owe you, and for the intrinſic value. Princes there have been in all ages, and generally they are amongſt all nations; but you are the firſt, and only faithful interpreter of nature, that we have ſeen, or ever heard of: and your diſcoveries of qualities are the golden keys, which unlock the divine cabinets; or I ſhould call them the luminous jewels, which give luſtre to all the parts of our mundane architecture. I beſeech God to reſtore and preſerve your health; and to crown you with the richeſt of his graces and mercies. And I humbly preſent my devoted ſervice to your moſt excellent ſiſter, the right honourable viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and her moſt virtuous and honourable daughters.

SIR,

your ever obliged,

moſt affectionate, and

moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Sept.* 2, 1671.

I AM obliged in a very extraordinary manner for the honour you have done me, in the favour I received from your noble hand, by the conveyance of our worthy friend Mr. *Oldenburg*. I have now twice read the book over with attention and affection; being all along comforted with ſtrong hopes, that it will revive the Royal Society, to reaſſume their firſt vigour, in defiance of proletary diſcouragements; and ſet many generous perſons at work, to counterpoiſe the emulation, and to ſatisfy the greateſt expectation of foreigners.

DR. *Bathurſt* being our Dean of *Wells*, and now there, I tranſcribed to him out of the fourth tract of the Goods of Mankind, *&c.* Sect. 2. pag. 10. your wiſh, that a catalogue of inventions loſt were extracted out of *Pancirollus* and *Salmuth*, made public, *&c.* I added, that it were confronted with another catalogue of inventions and accommodations deviſed within theſe two or three hundred years; which is no great ſtride in antiquities; and yet would offer a ſtrange delight, and both would ſuggeſt and prompt inventions for future accommodations, for garments, diet, drinks, all things. Not a row of pins, little clean linen, no ſilken raiments, nor *Engliſh* beer, within one age, or near it; the trifles would not be thought trifles, if we were now put to ſhift for them. Other places I recited to this purpoſe, that ſuch as have an influence in the univerſities, ſhould inflame metalline ſpirits to bear up the *Engliſh* reputation againſt foreign inſolence; though perhaps ſome of theſe matters would be beſt performed by ſome generous *Greſhamiſts*, who may have more aid from the great trade and commerce of our chief empory.

I DID not accuſe, but I did tenderly enquire, whether it were true, as is reported, that diſloyal and ſeditious pamphlets were authoriſed in the famous univerſities; and that ſtaunch and reverend heads there were become patrons to a ſacrilegious *Heroſtratus*, and openly courted him with theatrical inſtalment. If all were falſe, I ſhould be the more innocent; if true, *&c. &c.*

To this, and much more, which did ſometimes look like ſatire, our reverend dean returned me a very civil and obliging anſwer, that the laſt clauſe was a miſinformation, nothing like it, but rather the contrary: that the chief, and even the generality,

ty, do abhor the *Bloſius*; and that, when he comes to *Oxford*, more do accompany him in the coffee-houſes, to laugh at him, and to ſcorn his folly and impudence, than to applaud his madneſs; and that a little time may produce better things. This reply from ſuch a ſagacious perſon did pleaſe me ſo well, that I thought it fit to be tranſcribed to you.

BUT I ought not to interrupt you with double pages, whilſt you are ſo active to oblige all mankind, the preſent and future; and to redeem our nation from a great blot. And I can only pray for you, and all your right honourable alliances, ſubſcribing,

Honourable Sir,

your ever obliged, and

moſt faithful ſervant,

JOHN BEALE.

SIR, *Yeovell, Nov.* 13, 1671.

I SEE, by your favour of 10th inſtant, that you bore with patience, and much more reſpects than I can deſerve or expect, the trouble, which I lately gave you. My reflections did not aim only at your tract of gems, nor yet to your other collections, margined *loco citato*, nor only to Mr. *Hooke*'s promiſe, but to the deſign of *Steno*, as far as he hath expreſſed it, and farther; ſince (in my opinion) to explicate the generation of materials, found in the great maſs of the earth, ſome conſideration ſhould be had of terreſtrial rotation; all kinds of motion having ſo much efficiency in the forms and figures of things generated: of which we might expect ſome further diſcoveries, if ſuch as are much practiſed in the deepeſt mines were judicious philoſophers. Sir *William Strode* was to me, as you ſay he was to you, ſomewhat unintelligible; but towards me I could apparently diſcern, that he affected to be intricate; and to amuſe me with wonders; as if he had a mind I ſhould take him to be a conjurer: therefore I ſolicited Mr. *O.* to try, whether his copartner in the mines, Dr. *Cotton*, could explicate his reports in clearer ſtile.

SIR *William Strode* is now, or lately was, in *London*, buſied in a law-ſuit: if he ſhould viſit you, you may have an opportunity to try, whether *Steno*'s prodrome can invite him to apply his obſervations more diſtinctly; and to mind him in my name (if you think fit) of two points. 1. He told me, that in mines for ſome months the fire burns downwards; by which language he means, that it eats or burns the hearth or ground, where it is kindled, deeper than at other times. This he refers to the ſolſtices, but added, that the change was not punctually every year at the ſame time of the months. If the change and difference, as he aſſured, be conſiderable, perhaps it may hint ſome other ſubterraneous motion, or operation, than I am yet aware of. 2. Sir *William* told me of a liquor, which falling from the roof of a mine, did one part immediately petrify, and another part coagulated into the form of milk or cream, very white; a third part ran off in limpid and pure water. Such notes, if true, may be ſignificant to them, that underſtand more than I do; eſpecially, if all circumſtances relating to the roof, place, and fall, be related: how long this liquor runs, or reſts, upon ſtone, *&c.* The former (of fire) was very imperfectly deſcribed to me, and merely deſcribed for my aſtoniſhment.

SIR, I ſhall violate the laws of good manners, and preſume to fill my ſheet (though with trifles) when I adventure to interrupt you.

WHEN I was an *Eton* ſcholar, I broke many great flints, only to obſerve the ſeveral figures interwoven in the mixed veins. In one of many, I found in the very center

a marchaſite, not ſeparated, nor that could be divided from the flint; ſince that, I found on the earth elſewhere a flint-ſtone, ſeeming like touch, but harder than the beſt touch. This was only covered on both the flat ſides, with knobs or ſtuds, as big as a pepper-corn cut in half, but with the ornament of angles, ſix or more, of a more golden or fulvous colour, than ever I ſaw any other marchaſite: perhaps ſome cauſe, more than mere chance, may be rendered, why the marchaſite was on the ſurface of the one, in the center of the other. As my man was digging deep in my garden, he found a heap of white flints, or white pebbles, almoſt tranſparent, one of them, ſomewhat bigger than a two-penny white loaf, was bowed, as if cruſhed, ſo as the outſide ſeemed to be broken through the middle of the ſtone on the one ſide; the cleft whereof was filled with as bright and fair ſtones as any *Briſtol* diamonds that I have ſeen: it ſeemed to repreſent, how gems may be gotten in hotter countries, or colder, by the contuſions or ruptures of rocks; as I can cruſh cherry-trees and plumb-trees to yield gums in their ſeaſons: but of this I gave notice heretofore. Lately, the blueiſh ſtones, caſt out of a blueiſh marl-pit, being broken, had in the middle many varieties of figures and colours; many of them a white and faintly ſhining ſtone, broader than the palms of my hands every way, and doubly as thick as a crown piece of ſilver; my man, by breaking many, learned the ſkill to chooſe (aright) thoſe ſtones, which had the white ſtone; he could diſcern a peculiar tumour, or ſwelling, about the middle of thoſe ſtones; upon the flatter ſtones he loſt his labour.

ALAS, what trifles are theſe, in compariſon of what may be remarked by them, that dwell under ground! Yet theſe may be referred to ſome lines in *Steno*'s Prod. pag. 51. *Engliſh*, where I note, vapours driven out of ſtones, *&c.*

SIR, I ſhall now only add, that Dr. *Bury*, Mr. *Buckland*, Mr. *Gulſon*, and I, with as many as we confer with, are all in an obſtinate hereſy againſt Mr. *Hooke*'s publiſhed judgment, concerning the ſcalops, cockles, and *Heliacal* ſtones; which we have ſeen with our eyes, half generated, and *in tranſitu* towards generation, and with the breath of our mouths, readily rediſſolvable to their aquatic and terreſtrial principles. We cannot find in our neighbouring ſeas any ſtones or ſhell fiſhes, reſembling any of our *Heliacal* ſtones; but I fancy, that if the ſoil, where theſe *Heliacal* ſtones are generated, were covered with ſea water, and *ſub æſtu maris*, (which alternative recourſe may be eſſential to their animation) they would then be enlivened, and amount unto periwinkles (which they do neareſt reſemble) their flatneſs to be turbinated. I cannot diſbelieve all the hiſtories that I have read of great and monſtrous animals generated in lands, overwhelmed by the ſeas, after the ſeas are drawn off, eſpecially in hot countries. And we ſee, that ſcalops, cockles, and periwinkles, are generated in peculiar places of the ſeas, not every where; periwinkles in our ſhores. It is ſhort logic to infer, that all ſuch are fiſhes petrified, becauſe ſome are brought amongſt us by floods, and here petrified; or to deny the imperfect generation on earth, becauſe we ſee the films, and other reſemblances of marine productions. The *Romans*, *pro piſcinis*, took care (at vaſt expences) for the ſea tides, as neceſſary for the more agreeable diet of their choiceſt fiſhes: they may as wiſely be conſiderable for generation, without affront to our argument or ſentiment.

BUT, Sir, I have now tranſgreſſed enough, to have need of much pardon; and God knows, who can read, what I have written in the dark, through leathern lamp barnacles.

Honourable Sir,
your moſt humble, and
moſt affectionate ſervant,
J. BEALE.

By the late posts I have troubled my lady viscountess *Ranelagh* with hasty scribbles. I present my most humble service to her ladyship, *&c.*

I HEAR, that excellent marble is digged in a quarry near *Plymouth*.

SIR, *Nov.* 27, 1671.

ONCE more I adventure, (because St. *Andrew*'s tide is close at hand) briefly to propose, whether it may not be convenient at this next meeting, when the resort may be greater than ordinary, to nominate two committees of such, as are thought fittest, and are willing to correspond constantly, the one committee towards one of our universities, the other towards the other. To encourage some chief, whom you deem worthy of that trust, to collect into a club or society such as have a heart and capacities for the advancement of learning; to agree upon some place of meeting monthly (softly and slowly, rather than too thick and hasty at first) there to communicate what they please of their own, and what they receive from others.

THESE committees may sometimes oblige by an overplus, which may be spared from your repository for theirs; sometimes by concernments for their *Bodleian*, sometimes for their printing presses. Every month may afford fresh and welcome arguments. The beginning hath a friendly and becoming aspect: and if it prospers to a considerable number, and to carry good credit, you may in season derive unto them some of the power, which by the later additionals to your charter you may lawfully grant. This alone will prevent, that they cannot sever from you, or make collisions against you, or be independent, or be reputed other than subordinate. There you may have your candidates, prepared and essayed for your approbation: there are the colleges, revenues, faculties, many opportunities and leisure. There in time you may have store of astronomers, and other sons of art, to assist you in foreign correspondencies: especially, when by these committees they shall at all times be advised, how they may be furnished with the best aids, and instruments for all ingenious arts.

SIR, you have already published very costly and elaborate volumes, very agreeable and proper for the universities, to redeem them from the slavery and perverseness of the mind, reason, and all intellectuals; and from impertinent wars about chimeras. By God's blessings upon this conduct, you may soon see the fruit of it, the advance of your labours, as well, and perhaps much more at home, than is yet among foreigners. By this the *Stubbian* malignity will soon be confounded and extirpated.

AT my request, a young *Oxonian* prepared me a list of fit, capable, and hopeful persons, addicted to the design of the Royal Society, and willing to entertain correspondencies, and to assist in them. They seemed to me by their qualifications and number very considerable; some in every college, and in every hall. Only in one college there was but one named; but it is excused, that his list was much too short, and that he wanted time to complete it, and for some reasons he would not be seen to advise with others for fuller information. There are excellent professors, some lecturers, and very many students of useful arts amongst them. And in time they may have their meetings in some of their public schools, after fit lectures; and the wings of the *Stubbians* are already broken, and their reputation withers, as Dr. *Bathurst* told me. And it will be some ease and encouragements to such bookish men as I am, when we know, where to offer to farther examination such suggestions, as we collect from the ancient in our readings; and to spread what may be approved, as proper for modern advancements.

SIR, I see in the last Philosophical Transactions, num. 76. p. 2282. that Mr. *Lister* is somewhat warm on our side; and though I rest not on his arguments, which are also the same here for us, *viz.* that *Heliacal* stones, which Mr. *Buckland* sent from

Canſham, are red, as the quarry is there; thoſe which Dr. *Bury* and Mr. *Gulſon* ſent out of a blueiſh marl pit, are blueiſh and marly: thoſe which I gathered on *Hambden-hill*, are yellowiſh, as the quarry is there; and one, which I had out of a marl pit here, is greyiſh, another a ferruginous marchaſite. Yet, if they differ not only in the colour, but in many lines and circumſtances of the figure alſo, and no ſuch reſemblances can be found in any ſeas, or on any ſhores, this may add ſome weight to other arguments. The chief of which are to me theſe: 1. That we find them frequently *in fieri*, unfiniſhed and mingled with other ſtones ſome way or other, bearing the quinary, remark noted by *Caſaubon*, Credul. part I. p. 122, *&c.* and other peculiar ſhapes, for which they are here called thunderſtones. 2. Mr. *Buckland* found ſome of thoſe caſed one in another from very large to very ſmall, to the number of ſeventy, as I remember. 3. My credit to various hiſtory, and to the authentic narrative of the *Geneſis*, or creation, as I am taught to underſtand it. I hope Mr. *Liſter* will be deſired to ſend his exemplars, that they may be compared with thoſe which I ſent up; and that he be adviſed to enquire and notify, what difference of ſhape and figure from each rock. For the colour muſt follow the nature of the ſoil, where they are petrified. When Mr. *Hooke*, to convince me, ſhewed me the very film adhering to the inſide of cockles; I anſwered, that I ſhould yet be more confirmed in my ſentiment, if he had ſhewed me ſome of the fleſh, even the vitals. But I wondered moſt, when I was charged of affront to holy text, when I inſiſted upon the expreſs, *Gen.* i. 24. "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, *&c.*" In the creation I conceive there was more diſpatch, than contradiction or oppoſition to the rules and laws of generation. Yet perhaps I was in my younger days affected with the authority of Mr. *Hales* of *Eton*, who, when he ſhewed Mr. *Muffet* on inſects, told me very poſitively, but with a ſmile, that inſects were the new product of every year. And now I know better than he could, that there is as much of divine art and architecture in making an inſect, as a whale or elephant.

BUT I fear I have tired my lady viſcounteſs *Ranelagh* with many other wild matters, and with a touch upon this laſt point of philoſophy concerning ſpiders, caterpillars, aerial cobwebs; beſeeching your favour to preſent my moſt humble ſervice to her. I may for ſhame make haſte to ſubſcribe,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt affectionate, and

moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Oct.* 26, 1672.

I SHALL a little interrupt you to diſcourſe of your *Stalbridge*, and your nurſery there. For I hear you have that way alſo a large charity for the public good of *England*. I have ſent for your nurſery-man, that I may ſpeak with him, when he can ſpare a few hours, being myſelf unable to travel ſo far. When you have occaſion to write to *Stalbridge*, be pleaſed to add a line to incline him to accept of my advice; and to confer with Mr. *Henry Star*, a nurſery-man of this town, and with *Marmaduke Coates*, a quaker, the chief nurſery-man in this county, a neighbour well known, and much uſed by my couſin *Speke*, and by him furniſhed with good ſtore of the right red-ſtreaks, which my man brought from my lord *Scudamore*'s own orchard this laſt ſpring. I have many things to ſay for your man's advertiſement.

AND becauſe I have ſeen your fair and large walls, I recommend to you, and for your man, the Sieur *le Gendre*'s manner of ordering fruit trees, printed for *Humphrey*

Moſely at *Prince*'s *Arms*, *Paul's*, 1660, written with the greateſt judgment, that ever I ſaw any, after about fifty years experience, and a full knowledge of all the beſt gardens in *France*, tranſlated (as I gueſs by the ſtile) by Mr. *Evelyn*. It is of leſs bulk than the *French* Gardener, tranſlated by Mr. *Evelyn*. Both theſe tracts are excellent, but this leſſer is cloſe to the main art, for wall fruit; and his large preface will inſpire a gardener, that hath wit enough to underſtand him. If you pleaſe to mind your man of pear-ſtocks in your nurſeries, and of a trench or two for a nurſery of quinces, mulberries, and vines, I will give him directions, and ſometime ſhew you weighty and urgent reaſons of concernment for public good, and alſo for curioſity and profit.

BUT my art is chiefly to increaſe a rich winy liquor, and to ſpread the beſt fruit for that purpoſe, as largely over our corn-fields, as the vines are ſpread in *France*, not to countenance tipling, but that we may not be always ſo waſtefully tributaries to *France*, but enrich our vales to have a ſure ſtaple commodity, as our downs now have; and fit for an iſland addicted and concerned for navigation.

I AM told, that in our late war with *Holland*, *anno* 1665, the *French* began to interdict trade with *England*, till an accomplice ſhewed their king, that by trade we were penſioners to *France*, merely for their wines, to the value of ſome millions of money yearly. About the ſame time, Mr. *Fortrey*, a gentleman of our king's privy chamber, computes from the cuſtom-houſe (*& multa cadunt inter calices*, *&c.*) that beſides all commodities, we export for *France*, the overplus of our expences for their wines amounted to 1600000 *l.* ſterling yearly: and that this Mr. *Fortrey* publiſhed in his treatiſe of the *Engliſh* Intereſt and Improvement. I have not ſeen this tract, but I recite it out of Mr. *Roger Coke*'s Treatiſe of Trade, and (to my knowledge) this book was very welcome to ſome of the privy-council. Leſt I ſhould be miſled by falſe printed figures, I examined *Coke*, and found it, p. 3. and again repeated, p. 61. edit. 1. and pag. 39. he adds, that by trading for *French* wines, in the perilous months of *September*, *October*, *November*, *December*, we loſe more ſhipping, and more ſeamen, than by all our other trade. And Mr. *Fortrey* calculates, that we loſe in the whole of our trade with *Spain* for *Spaniſh* wines 195000 *l.* clearly, which I am ſince informed to be much an undervalue. Thus we are at charges enough to have the *French* to invade us, and to conquer us, as *Saxons*, *Danes*, and *Normans* have done. Some ſay, that our cyder will ſoon become a drug; I anſwer, that *French* wine will become odious, before the beſt cyder ſuch as we can already raiſe, will become a drug. Neither did *French* wine become a drug, when vines did overſpread *France*. I can produce good records, when there were no vines in *France*, nor on the *Rhine*, nor in all *Germany*. Now they are their chief wealth.

AND for further encouragement, I take my wife's word, that ſhe, with others of my family, drank redſtreak at my lord *Scudamore*'s houſe this ſummer, of eleven years old, ſo rich, ſtrong, briſk, and pleaſant, that they took it to be old *Spaniſh* or *Greek* wine, and they came few days ſhort of drinking cyder of ſixteen or ſeventeen years old; richer, as appears in that it was ſpent for the beſt, at my lord's wooing entertainments. And it is eight years ſince my lord's father promiſed me cyder of three, four, and eight years old, the older the better: and my lord's grandfather (at whoſe houſe my wife drank the abovementioned) was a better guardian of rich liquors than my lord's father.

BUT I have found a liquor of pears, richer, and as long laſting for many years trial, as the redſtreak: of this I intend our nurſery-men, as moſt proper to be planted alternatively with apples.

I HAVE not yet heard, how the *Turgovian* pear thrives in *England*. Be pleaſed to review what Mr. *Evelyn* ſaith of it, in *Pomona*, pag. 13. edit. 2. If they thrive, Mr. *Evelyn*

Evelyn is apt (at that motion) freely and generouſly to furniſh you with a few graffs for *Stalbridge*. And thus far I have made bold to trouble you. I preſent my humble ſervice to the right honourable viſcounteſs *Ranelagh* and her honourable daughters.

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

SIR, if you pleaſe to engage the Royal Society at the anniverſary ſolemnity of St. *Andrew*'s, to continue their care for the propagation of the beſt cyder fruit, in large encloſures of thirty, forty, or more acres, at forty or at leaſt thirty-two feet diſtance, that the plough or ſpade may keep the land in hearty tillage; I dare promiſe, that the trees will come on fairer in five years, than in ten without tillage; and bear more fruit, and more frequently abound; and Mr. *Reed* will join teſtimony in this point: naturally good ground is beſt for nurſeries, ſaith *Le Gendre*, upon good reaſons and experience. Not wormy grounds for pear kernels, ſaith *Marmaduke Coates*. The borland and linten pear is beſt for ſtrong perry, *&c. &c.*

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, March* 3, 1672.

I HAVE requeſted my ſtationer *Brome* to ſend you, together with this tract, a ſeaſonable Diſcourſe, ſhewing the Neceſſity of maintaining the eſtabliſhed Religion in oppoſition to Popery. Not as a tract made by myſelf, but very agreeeable to my ſenſe; inſomuch, that if I were rich, I would put one in every hand in the two houſes of parliament; and perhaps you will not deem it unſeaſonable.

SIR, many years are paſt, ſince I had the confidence to tell my lord *Brereton*, and others of quality, that (if I did not abhor the wickedneſs) I could myſelf ſmooth and oil the *Roman* pretences, ſufficiently to impoſe upon the main body of a people far more ſagacious than I could find the *Engliſh*, or any other people in the world to be. For doctrine, I ſhould have good helps from *Picherell*, *Grotius*, *Modrevius*, and a hundred more, ſome aſſiſting in one point, ſome in another; and for diſcipline our own *Hooker*, *Brerewood*, *Hammond*, &c. our very rubrick, canons, and conſtitutions, would furniſh ample grounds; and then I could trick and dreſs up all, to ſhew more liberty than any proteſtants do, or dare afford; and for this laſt, Sir *Edwyn Sandys* in his *Europæ Speculum* (but with an honeſt aim) hath given me ſplendid arguments.

Now at page 6. of this diſcourſe, the oil is quite beaten out of my hand, and all my poiſonous compliments are quite put out of countenance; and by the club law of arguments of intereſt *ad hominem* we are here taught to feel the concernment for the king and people, nobility and gentry, huſbandman and tradeſman, lawyer, and all *England*, to keep off the Pope, with a long pike, at five hundred miles diſtance, if poſſible. To me *England* ſeems weak and harraſſed, out of breath, and out of heart; the proteſtants in all places ſinking apace; the *Romaniſts* in thouſand guiſes intruding, undermining, inſolent, and already triumphant; and whence is our remedy, when our public ſins cry aloud for public judgments? In this caſe I would part with cloak and gown, with all accoutrements, ceremonies, and formalities, any thing, to preſerve the ſubſtance.

HONOURABLE Sir, I preſent my humble ſervice to the right honourable viſcount *Ranelagh*, and to all the honourable family, ever remaining,

your moſt humble and moſt obliged ſervant,

J. BEALE.

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Dec.* 31, 1673.

I HAVE too long delayed to acknowledge the honour and many great favours, which I have lately received from your noble hands; and particularly your laſt publiſhed volume of Cold, Hydroſcopes, *&c.* Truly I have been very ſick ſome weeks before, and ſince I received your excellent book. And, though it gave me moſt pleaſing treatments, whilſt it was read to me, yet I did long to be my own reader of it to myſelf, before I would adventure to ſay any thing of it to you. And now I muſt complain againſt myſelf, that there is no regard to be had to my ſentiment, or ſentence concerning any of your writings. For as ſoon as any of them appeared, I thought always within myſelf, that you were at the very bottom, and that nothing could be ſaid more on the ſame matter; yet all the following books have in order ſurpriſed me with freſh, and (as I think) deeper additionals. Your firſt tracts of air were to me as miracles; yet all that followed begot ſtill my greater wonder. I was ſtrangely amuſed at the lazineſs of *aurum fulminans* to take fire and flame at the ceſſation of air; and more, at your performances in rendering fire and flame ponderable. I thought you had ſaid enough and finiſhed for the Corpuſcularians in your large and various accounts of particular effluviums; yet your laſt of Cold, of the peculiarity of Air, as to moiſture, and the effects of it, and of Hygroſcopes, do ſeem more largely to diſcover the depth, or to extricate nature, or to direct the great methods for detecting her force, and to apply it for infinite uſes. It is ſtrange indeed, that cold, which ſeems to be the cramp of all things, almoſt a mere ceſſation, ſhould raiſe an expanſive force, as if *aurum fulminans* were fired; and that liquids, in the rage of their conflicts, ſhould beat themſelves mutually into a benumming congelation. Doubtleſs your motions concerning Hydroſcopes will open a fair portal to a main body of deep, uſeful, and pleaſant philoſophy. Sir, you cannot ſuſpect me of ingratitude for any of theſe favours and diſcoveries, whilſt you allow me to be a man of common ſenſe, and of ordinary reaſon. And truly I am,

Honourable Sir,

your ever obliged and
moſt humble ſervant,
JOHN BEALE.

I BESEECH you to preſent my moſt humble ſervice to the right honourable my lady viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and to her honourable daughters.

I SHALL add a line or two on the back of this.

SIR, I named Mr. *Carew Reynol*'s *True Engliſh Intereſt* to Mr. *Oldenburg* by the laſt poſt. I can ſay nothing to his politicals. But enough may be ſafely done, to make good his great words in the title page. And ſeveral great are done very effectually to the ſame purpoſe, under his majeſty's countenance, and by the happy conduct of the Royal Society. And much more may in good time be done by the ſame proſperous conduct, and conſtant perſeverance, and without any blameable digreſſion from the advance in other points of uſeful knowledge; as myſelf can inſtance for the linen trade, mulberries for the ſilk trade, vineyards, *&c.* And infinitely much more yourſelf do beſt know, and eſpecially in relation to the great trade of *England*. I fear the greateſt obſtructions from the gallants of *Covent Garden*, by their debaucheries and apiſhneſs. I intend a few lines more to Mr. *Oldenburg*, concerning ſome particulars ſuggeſted by Mr. *Reynol.*

SIR,

SIR, From *Yeovell, Nov.* 29, 1676.

I THINK I am as deeply ſenſible of your manifold and great favours, as a man can be. I am ſure your excellent writings do give me all the ſatisfaction, that my own heart can deſire; and much more than ſo; for (to confeſs the truth) they give me abundant ſatisfaction in very many deep and weighty matters, which I had not the capacity to deſire, or to enquire, or to think of. And yet, by my continual indiſpoſition and unluckineſs, I am altogether unable to make any ſhew of gratefulneſs, for you are not a perſon to be complimented with abundance of ſoft words; and I can make no oblation of ſubſtantial importance.

SIR, inſtead of returning you thoſe many thanks, which I am reſolved for ever to owe you, I muſt fall on begging, firſt, that you will pardon a few wild ſheets, bearing the title of Nurſeries, and my name, but (in truth) they are not mine; for they came ſo haſtily from my over-running pen, and ſlipped away out of my power ſo ſuddenly, that they never had one minute of my ſecond thoughts; neither had they blaſted my name abroad, if Mr. *Oldenburg*'s perſuaſions had not prevailed with me more than my own judgment and the ſenſe of my own reputation.

SECONDLY, as bad as the pamphlet is, I beg your honour's countenance, both towards the Royal Society, and towards *Ireland*, not for the pamphlet, but for the buſineſs, to renew and revive their ſolicitations every way towards the public. Our ſcribbles are but trifles, in compariſon of examples and action in fit and eminent places; and there is a conduct (as you and many right honourable perſons of your family do well know) which perform more in a year, than huge volumes in half an age; and (to inſtance in the ſmalleſt things, under the roſe) I dare ſay, that *Anthony Lawrence* can do more for propagation of orchards in five years, than Mr. *Auſten* hath done in fifty-two years, as he numbers them. Yea, I can prove and ſhew, that he hath done ſo before our eyes very lately, only by tranſporting many thouſands of grafts of apples and pears of the beſt cyder fruit out of *Herefordſhire* and *Worceſterſhire*, into *Somerſetſhire*, *Dorſetſhire*, *Devonſhire*, and *Cornwall*; and by ſending grafts to *London*, and by riding up and down to give inſtructions and encouragements.

SIR, it is more for the reputation of the Royal Society to appear hearty and active in theſe matters, than to let them drive themſelves on, as doubtleſs they will do in time, though but ſlowly, without you. If there were but one or two ſubſtantial nurſeries well begun (as is here directed) in *Oxford*, *Cambridge*, *York*; and in *Ireland*, in *Dublin*, *Cork*, *Limerick*, *Waterford*, *Youghall*, *Galloway* and *Kilkenny*, we ſhould then ſee, what would be done in five years.

SIR, I have under my hand a tract, for which I intend more ſolemnly to addreſs to your honour for countenance: mean while I am haſting to the preſs a fourth *Hortulane* Letter, addreſſed to Mr. *Oldenburg*, of which the following page will give you the argument; and theſe four are but preliminaries and prodomes to that which I have already drawn.

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

I HUMBLY crave the favour to preſent my moſt humble ſervice to the right honourable my lady viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, beſeeching my lady's pardon, favour, and countenance in the ſame affair. I hear, that many worthy perſons in *Ireland* are as forward for garden orchards, as we are. Amongſt them, Mr. *Greatrix*, the healer, is more famous for nurſeries, orchards, and cyder.

SIR,

SIR, when this letter was written, I thought a third letter, which I ſent to *London*, had been printed; which was the cauſe, that the letter next mentioned was by me called the fourth *Hortulane* Letter. I hope I ſhall yet recover the third.

The cheap and eaſy diſpatch for raiſing, preſerving, and cheriſhing rich nurſeries, and young orchards, and for renewing old and decayed orchards, with more expreſs confirmations of ſome conſiderables intimated in the foregoing Hortulane *Letters; this being the fourth* Hortulane *Letter to* H. Oldenburg, *Eſq; from* J. Beale. *In four chapters.*

CHAP. I. Shewing how ſome by triflings do retard the planting of nurſeries and orchards, and defending the old plain way for ſure diſpatch.

CHAP. II. Shewing ſome plain, ſpeedy, and eaſy ways, how to guard nurſeries, orchards, and gardens from worms, birds, mice, and other noxious vermin; how to prevent or correct bad winds, blaſts, hurtful thunders and lightenings; to purify infectious air; to heal unwholeſome waters; and detecting trifling, ſuperſtitious, and ineffectual pretences, inſtead of true remedies.

CHAP. III. Shewing the moſt expedite and cheap ways of putting forward a young orchard for ſpeedy growth, beauty, and fertility; and how to renew and revive an old, decayed, moſſy, cancerous, and fruitleſs orchard; to be (on a ſudden) freſh, beautiful, and fruitful; at very ſmall charges, or trouble, or with preſent profit, and full reward, whilſt it is doing.

CHAP. IV. Defending more expreſsly the facility of ſettling and maintaining *Hortulane* correſpondencies between theſe triple kingdoms and the *Engliſh* colonies in *America*, for exchanging all ſorts of ſeeds, ſets, or plants, together with their proper ſoils yearly.

THIS tract is much larger, than all the other *Hortulane* letters joined together.

For Mr. JOHN HOUGHTON.

Worthy Mr. HOUGHTON, *Yeovell, Feb.* 1, 1680.

I INTREAT your patience to hear, how I am rarely ſurpriſed with ſuch noble kindneſſes, that I know not how to prove myſelf an honeſt or thankful man. By our carrier laſt week, I received Mr. *Boyle*'s Aerial Noctiluca, richly embelliſhed with gold and other ornaments, the carrier alſo paid; but not a line or word in the incloſed ſheet, to ſignify to whom I might return my thanks; but I have good reaſon to believe, that it was ſent me by Mr. *Boyle*'s order, for that he obliged me with his many other volumes in like manner richly garniſhed. Therefore I pray you preſent my moſt humble ſervice to Mr. *Boyle*, and let this haſty paper ſay to him, that I cannot but admire the extraordinary ſagacity of the author, and his ſucceſsful induſtry in thoſe reſearches; but I am ſorry, that he was not furniſhed with the beſt preparation of the *Bolonian* ſtone, and of *Balduin*'s phoſphorus, and of *Kraff*'s two luminaries to ſave him ſome of his pains, and for his further progreſs. We have for ever loſt many rare diſcoveries by the reſervedneſs and mortality of the authors; and theſe Mr. *Boyle*'s ſucceſſes gives us great hope, that in time we may obtain luminaries of great uſe for the general benefit of all mankind. For it appears, that ſome materials may be found compoſed of ſome cold, and more ſparingly ſelf-conſuming ſubſtances And that, albeit

albeit the ſo frequent co-exiſtence of flame and light do beget ſome prejudice againſt the attempt; yet it is not ſo much, as that we ought to deſpair of finding within the region of poſſibilities, permanent or long laſting luminaries. Rotten wood, and the tree in *Jamaica*, mentioned by Dr. *Trapham* (of which I hope Mr. *Boyle* hath a fuller account) do afford long laſting luminaries: and ſnow, which ſeems outwardly of a cold complexion, hath ſome degree of luminouſneſs, enough to dazzle our eyes: but ſnow hath ſome intrinſic or circumſtantial heat, as appears by the vegetables cheriſhed and impregnated under it. And Mr. *Boyle* hath given us the demonſtration, how whites do reſiſt ſolar beams, and blacks imbibe them; and Mr. *Newton*'s account of whiteneſs hath evaded the objections of all his adverſaries.

In a very hot ſummer day, we were eating lobſters at ſupper, which were very pleaſant and ſweet to all that ſat at the table; but whilſt we were ſitting (within half an hour after we had eaten the lobſters) we ſaw the inſides of the ſhells ſhining vividly from the corner of a cupboard, to which they were removed. And Sir *H. Wotton* told me, that after a clap of thunder, cart-loads of ſhell-fiſhes, which they were driving into the town (of *Venice* as I take it) were forthwith driven out, they being well aſſured, that none would buy them after thunder: but thunder ſuddenly taints ſome of our drinks, eſpecially ſweet wort, before the yeaſt or barm is put to it. Whatever becomes of this note, there may be ſomething found uniformly proceeding from luciferous bodies; and of neceſſity every effect muſt be proportionate to its cauſe. If *A* be proportionate to *B*, it cannot be ſo to *C* alſo, *qua* differing from *B*: but in this haſty ſcribble, I wander above my own underſtanding; and therefore it is time I ſhould beg your pardon, and ſubſcribe

your much obliged,

and very humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

To Mr. BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, Feb.* 16, 1680.

I WAS ſo ſtrangely tranſported, when I received your Aerial Noctiluca, that I could ſcarcely believe mine own eyes, that you ſhould condeſcend ſo low; yet I had good reaſon to believe, that it was ſent me by your expreſs order: for that you have obliged me formerly in like manner with all your volumes; which veracity and ſincerity bind me to acknowledge to be all along the profoundeſt diſcoveries of art and nature, that ever appeared in the world.

SIR, I was tempted to ſend you, by Mr. *Houghton*, an haſty and wild rhapſody of little or no ſenſe; I muſt confeſs I ſent it before I had ſeen more than a very few pages of your book, being interrupted by my function, and viſits of my chief alliances: and now I muſt haſten my recantation; for we could not ſpare you one line or hint, that is in your book. You have explained the terms and the buſineſs ſo accurately, and you have ſo methodically ſtep by ſtep aſcended far higher than I could expect or imagine; and if you have failed of other men's expedients, though that might coſt you the more trouble, yet it is more to be eſteemed by us, for the variety: and now you have done that, which may purchaſe all other diſcoveries by fair exchange.

SIR, I cannot allow your ſcruple in favour of mankind. Mr. *Hartlib* told me long ſince, how largely, and how often, your bounty hindered *Kuffler* from vending his de-

ſtroying artifice; yet I never heard what hurt or good it hath done, ſince he made ſale of it. All antiquaries agree in it, that our wars have been leſs deſtructive, ſince our thundering artillery, than in former ages: the holy ſcriptures bear full witneſſes to it; and little *Benjamin* loſt more in one day, than all our great monarchs and potentates have done in the main battalia of three years war. For it was but like the hunting of a hare, or of a fox by a wood's ſide: and I have been told, that they have reported the loſs of more men in their ſkirmiſhes, than they have there in battle array. I know not what the *French* bombs were; but the ſooner they forced a ſurrender, the more lives were ſaved on both ſides. And if brave *Brandenburg* could have forced *Stetin* to have ſurrendered by any terrifying artillery with ſpeed, many lives on both ſides, which were loſt by the long ſiege, might have been ſaved. If *England* ſhould be in diſtreſs, I ſhould pray for ſuch terrifying engines, as would ſoon rout all our enemies: and I wiſh we had ſuch againſt the *Moors* and *Algerines*. Therefore I pray do not ſuffer your beſt inventions of defence or offence to die in your hands, but preſerve them for our own day of need. I do conceive, that as the late inventions of printing and navigation were great bleſſings to *Chriſtendom*, for the propagation of the goſpel in our latter days, ſo was alſo the thundering artillery. And as far as I can underſtand the prophet *Daniel*, chap. ii, vii. and *Revel.* ch. xvii. the greateſt work does yet remain, and perhaps may be near at hand; that as thoſe three great expedients have been above three hundred years preparing for the battle of the Lamb, ſo God only knows, how many thouſand years may yet remain for the world to enjoy the conqueſt of the Lamb.

OF which I have much to ſay ſome other time, for my right honourable lady viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, to whom I beg leave to preſent my humble ſervice. I pray for you all as my bounden duty.

I AM perſuaded, that the microſcope, as it is now wonderfully improved by Mr. *Hooke* and Mr. *Leeuwenhoeck*, and as they are now made by *Cox* and *Mellin*, were by divine providence ordained to accompany your luminous diſcoveries; and that all their important uſes will not be found out in many years. Not that I dare think it fit, that you ſhould be troubled with it; but it is a great damage to the public and to the commonwealth of philoſophy, if you ſhould not have a full college of the beſt ingenious to govern and employ them by your inſtructions; which is all that reaſonable men can expect from you, your hands being ſo full of the nobleſt arguments. I can name at leaſt thirty-one admirable volumes, which you have already publiſhed, taking in what I find in Philoſophical Tranſactions, num. 31. and num. 32. and again, num. 62. and num. 63. and num. 132. and elſewhere. And the volumes which you have publiſhed, do mention about twenty-four noble arguments now under your hand, which are impatiently deſired by all, that have hearts for ſolid philoſophy: and I hope, that your *Sylva* of promiſcuous experiments will be your eaſieſt work, becauſe thoſe you may caſt in at broken hours how you pleaſe; and afterward enlarge them for various importances, far beyond the bulk by marginal references. For we are covetous to be ſecured of all your profound obſervations, and painful labours. Moſt of your publiſhed volumes are alſo rendered in *Latin*, and ſome of them are enlarged in latter impreſſions.

SIR, upon the by, and partly as belonging to your diſcourſe of Light, I am able to aſſure you, that ſuch darkneſs, as ſeems to moſt men like *Egyptian* darkneſs, is clear light to ſome animals, and to ſome very few men and women: this I found out, by trying for helps for mine own decayed ſight, and ſince by the experience of ſome few others. Some of my particulars will ſeem very incredible; but I ſhall ſay no more

more than what I can fully prove. To put a ſtop to this tedioufneſs, I muſt abruptly ſubſcribe,

SIR,

your ever obliged,

moſt affectionate and

moſt obedient ſervant,

J. BEALE.

POSTSCRIPT.

SIR, I entreat your patience for two advertiſements: firſt our *London* merchants have been always famous for generoſity: could they be now induced to take into their company ſome ingenious virtuoſi to interpret your beſt philoſophy, and to ſhew the uſe of your philoſophical utenſils, I hope they would prove good barter, and then employ our curious operators: but this ſhould be done with all convenient diſpatch, to prevent, that the *French*, *Italians*, and Jeſuits themſelves, do not pre-occupate our glory, and turn our beſt artillery againſt ourſelves. If the *Engliſh* pre-occupate, the interpreters may find opportunities to inform the great monarchs, *Mahometans*, and infidels, that the Jeſuits are interlopers in all trades and traffic by ſea and land; and do infuſe principles for the triple crown of *Rome* againſt the intereſt of all other monarchs. The monarchs of the Eaſt, of *Japan*, and *China*, would not diſdain ſome of your inſtruments. Monſieur *Bernier* tells us, that the great *Omrams* in the courts of the great Mogul did highly eſteem his new philoſophy, which I think could be no other than that of *Gaſſendus*; which ſince his time is mightily improved, and thus, by God's bleſſing, the light of art and of nature may uſher in the light of grace for the laſt and univerſal propagation of the goſpel; as *Auguſtus* by ſettling peace all over the *Roman* uſhered in our Lord, the prince of peace, in the firſt propagation of the goſpel. That was begun by blood and ſufferings; this may be more proſperous by the conqueſt of the holy Lamb.

SECONDLY, if the miniſters of *New England* can be intreated to print monthly bills of births, male and female, marriages, and burials, male and female, within fifteen miles of *Boſton* and *New Cambridge*, and then once a year to ſend in the like bills from all their colonies, and the iſlands about them; this I conceive would be acceptable to the king, and to all that can make the beſt uſe of Sir *W. Petty*'s notes on the bills of mortality. Sir, this is not to taſk you, but a word from your mouth may probably engage *H. Wood*, or ſome worthy perſon, to preſs it on effectually.

THEY are ſaid to be great breeders, and have lately had ſweeping diſeaſes, beſides their loſs in their late wars: and there are amongſt them learned men to give us a map of *New England*, and their iſlands, as they are now ſettled in peace and plenty; noting in the margin their townſhips and churches, with other fit circumſtances, taking in *Longland* amongſt their other iſlands. All this may be reaſonably expected from their printing preſs, by the communications of *Boſton* and *Cambridge*.

March 2, 1680.

In Noctilucam viri ampliſſimi ſummique philoſophi, R. B.

EPIGRAMMA.

ÆMULUS en! noſtri ſurgit Britannicus heros;
Noſtraque partitur munera, Phœbus ait.
Non jam de cœlo poſcent ſibi lumina noctes;
I nunc per nemora, & fige, Diana, feras.

O vivat, vigeat longævus, plurima ut ultra
Proferat in lucem ſplendida ſcripta, precor.
Hunc modo parca favens multos conſervet in annos,
Altior humanâ ſorte feretur homo.

HEN. LAVOR, *raptim.*

SIR, this is from our quaker, a man exquiſitely learned in all the arts and ſciences, that are yet known amongſt us; a profound admirer of all your volumes; very reſerved, and of few words; ſo that this is merely enforced from his great reſpects, and ſtrong affections. He gave me epigrams upon ſome of your other volumes, which I ſent to Mr. *Oldenburg*, as I received them, in his own hand; ſo that I have no copy.

SIR, you do not allow any ſuch introduction in the front of your other volumes; but I wiſh you would refer it to Mr. *Warr*'s diſcretion, if your *Noctiluca* ſhould come abroad in *Latin*, to prefix this modeſt epigram for the reader's ſake; *& boni ominis gratiâ.* A fit epigram is an acceptable preparative for the guſt of moſt readers. This is plain and honeſt, and you can indulge affectionate ſimplicity. Excuſe me, Sir, I ſhould be glad to ſee your picture in a curious cut; and the moſt proper epigram, that the beſt wits can make, in the front of every of your volumes, in *Latin* for your *Latin*, in *Engliſh* for your *Engliſh*. A picture prompts the reader to fancy, that he ſees and hears the author ſpeaking, enlivens his attention, and confirms his memory by the moſt natural impreſſion. I hope you will pardon this over-officiouſneſs, which is not intended to afflict your modeſty, but for the benefit of the readers.

SIR, at the end of my laſt to you, where I wiſh for a map of *New England*, noting in the margin their towns, churches, and other fit circumſtances; I ſhould have added the natural peculiarities of the place. Yourſelf hath given excellent inſtructions for thoſe purpoſes, in Phil. Tranſ. vol. i. numb. 11. Dr. *Plott*, in his Natural Hiſtory of *Oxfordſhire*, hath done the beſt in it, that I have yet ſeen. And Mr. *Oldenburg*'s Breviate on the ſame, numb. 135. would give good light to *New Cambridge*. And his preface to vol. xi. ſolicits the ſame; but when he comes to the main point, at the end of that preface, there are ſo many falſe prints and diſlocations, that the ſenſe is paſt recovery. I hope they have all the Phil. Tranſ. in their *Cambridge*. Dr. *Merret*'s Pinax may do them much good. There is an excellent account of the depth of the ſoil from *Barbados*, numb. 117. pag. 399. and a wonderful account from *Bermudas*, numb. 30. pag. 565. I wiſh you had the like from the reſt of the *Caribbee* iſles, and from *Jamaica*. If *New England* would now begin it, probably the *Engliſh* would follow that example in all parts of that large continent, and in the iſlands about it. I have taken ſome pains to find what hath been done in it in other parts of our old world, and have much more to offer for *New England:* but I have tranſgreſſed already beyond the bounds of a civil addreſs. Sir, I pray for you, and all your noble relations.

SIR,

your ever obliged, and
moſt obedient ſervant;
J. BEALE.

SIR, for ſafety of conveyance, I ſhall duplicate the ſuperſcribed directions.

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, June* 26, 1682.

I HAVE no language to expreſs, how ſenſible I am of my deep obligations for your many great favours; and you have no leiſure for impertinencies. I ſhall only offer to you, at preſent, what I conceive to be of great importance for the public; and to obtain a free paſſage both for true theology, and for ſound philoſophy.

SIR, all true hearted *Engliſhmen*, and all good men amongſt us, are aggrieved to ſee the ſwarms and prevalence of *Hobbians* and *Stubbians*, atheiſts and ſcoffers, theatrical buffoons, blaſphemers, and the burleſque and traveſtry, which explode all religion, graces and virtues, and moſt of all thoſe heroical virtues, which are the ſtrength and honour of our nation. I dare ſay, theſe have done more real damages and diſhonour to the king, and to our nation, than all the diſſenters in their ſeveral guiſes have been hitherto able to do. And they ſeem to be more dangerous, than all our bloody wars with foreigners, the great plague, and the firing of *London*. Neither can I hear, that God's wonderful mercies upon one of the worſt have been effectual to reclaim the other knights, or the blaſphemous balcony.

FOR a remedy, I have lately tranſacted with one of my beſt friends in ſeveral letters; he deſponds, and ſays, *Conclamatum eſt*, for any thing that is ſerious to be heard among the gallants; that it renders a man but ridiculous, to ſpeak there under the rate of dam'me for a preface; and he cannot be a ſtranger to the mode of court, *Exeat aulâ, qui velit eſſe pius.*

SIR, I pray give me leave to abbreviate my arguments to you. We ſee, that God hath in great mercy raiſed a very powerful and commendable clergy amongſt us; at leaſt an hundred excellent ſermons in *London* every ſolemn day; ſome thouſands preached and printed, with other excellent treatiſes of divinity, ſince his majeſty's bleſſed reſtoration. I will name no more, but as our near concernment, Dr. *Tillotſon*'s ſermon at *Whitehall*, on the 2d of *Pet.* iii. 3. where he ſhews how atheiſm came from *Italy* into *France*, and is now moſt rampant in *England*; and ſhews how God may forbear his puniſhments in this world for perſonal tranſgreſſions, but is concerned ſometimes to puniſh whole nations for national tranſgreſſions. To this I add Dr. *Parker*'s late Demonſtration, ſhewing how inconſiſtent groſs immoralities are with true Chriſtianity. This book I wiſh were mentioned with juſt applauſe in the Weekly Memorials, that the kingdom may know, that the Royal Society do heartily eſpouſe true and ſolid virtues together with ſerious Chriſtianity. And it would be for the honour of the church of *England*, if their cenſures were as vigorous againſt blaſphemies and rank immoralities, as ſome are for mere formalities; as I ſo lately diſcourſed by the ſeſſions of *Devonſhire*, printed and drawn by baronet *Seymour*. The more we are obliged to adventure with boldneſs and reſolution, to encourage the city to advance in arts and ſciences. And we have good grounds to hope, that in a ſhort time, by God's bleſſing, they may be the moſt famous and proſperous empory that we know of; being aſſiſted with both our univerſities, which now do heartily concur with them. And it is a good omen, that God hath given them his lively oracles above any other empory; for this, if well received (as I hope it is by the main body of the city) ſecures them of the bleſſing. And they have already a great number of excellent teachers and writers, and diſciples, of all parts of mathematics, eſpecially for navigation: and his majeſty hath the firſt honour for endowing a college to teach the art of navigation, which is the great concernment of this inſulary monarchy. Mr. *Moxon*'s charts and mechanicals, and Mr. *Seller*'s furniture for navigation, may be an excellent entertainment for intelligent citizens: and Phil. Tranſ. numb 24. will ſhew them how long they have been inſtructed with ſuch aids for navigation, as other parts of the world are not aware of: and yourſelf, in the ſecond tome of Uſefulneſs, have twice told them what you know of.

of the ſkill of ſome urinators. And it is more than ten years ſince his majeſty's urinator, Mr. *Curtis*, publiſhed in the Gazette, how he had practiſed, and was furniſhed with inſtruments divers, and ſhipping, to recover permanent goods which are loſt by ſhipwreck; which minds me how eaſy it were, and advantageous for our merchants, in all their voyages, to be furniſhed with ſuch urinators; and with the engine, which claws up all the natural and caſual treaſuries of the ſeas, mentioned in Hiſt. R. S. pag. 220, & 248. ſo long ago: and the citizens are by this time able to diſcern, whether they are more obliged to the buffoon, who made it his only buſineſs to vilify virtues and inventions, or to thoſe illuſtrious perſons, who have taken ſo much pains (and at ſo much of their coſt and charges) to increaſe profitable arts and inventions, for the great benefit of the city. I think no empory hath ſo many, that are expert in the ſeveral kinds of ſhort hands; this requires ſome time and pains to be ſo prompt at it as they are. To perſons of that docibility, the real character may be eaſily taught in a few days, at leaſt to be their own maſters in the practice; and the ſooner, if a ſhort model were printed for an introduction. And the characters, which are vulgarly known for arithmetic, chemiſtry, aſtronomy, and all parts of mathematics, would ſoon paſs current, with a mixture of Dr. *Wilkins*'s real character for all *European* Chriſtendom. Many more excellent arts I could add of great worth, which myſelf could teach in few hours, and have practiſed in my younger days. And the citizens, as many of them as can make uſe of a Gazette, may ſoon gain a benefit to themſelves (citizens for their diverſion, gentlemen and virtuous ladies) by reading the beſt books of philoſophy; the Phil. Tranſ. Phil. Coll. and Weekly Memorials, which in their minute half ſheets, by their pleaſing variety, may bore a hole through the thicket of *Stubbians*. To convince the ſcoffers of their contempt of knowledge, by theſe Phil. Coll. and Memorials, if it ſhall pleaſe God to continue them, we are in a ſure way of furniſhing the city, and all *England*, with the moſt uſeful and moſt wonderful knowledge, that the learned world can afford. The account of *China*, in the Memorials, makes me wiſh that we had a conſtant correſpondence with them, and they freed from the inhuman *Tartars*. Mr. *Mallenge*'s microſcope would ſhew them, that the *Engliſh* have as many eyes as themſelves; and perhaps they may aſſiſt us to improve the teleſcope: and I am perſuaded, that ſhortly it will be much improved, for wonderful diſcoveries in the planets.

O THAT Dr. *Spratt* could be perſuaded to go on with the Hiſtory of the Royal Society! The argument is become much more pleaſant, more hopeful, and the ſeaſon to revive it is perfectly ripe; and no man, that hath the wit to underſtand the excellency of his writings, will adventure to follow him. In pag. 413, 414, *&c.* he hath ſaid enough to reclaim the ſcoffers, if they had been reaſonable animals.

SIR, I wiſh that Mr. *Erſkine*, and our other *Scottiſh* virtuoſi, would find out a fit perſon in *Edinburgh* to publiſh half a ſheet weekly, extracted out of the beſt of ours; or as they ſhall be better inſtructed upon the place for the advancement of *Scotland*. My lord of *Perth* will countenance it to his utmoſt, as I am told from a ſure hand. I have caſt in my ſymbol in Phil. Tranſ. numb. 116. pag. 357. and more is for their purpoſe, numb. 124. pag. 583; to which I can add much very peculiar for *Scotland*. It were our happineſs, if we could find them good work at home, rather than that they ſhould be the forlorn hope, or lead the van in all foreign wars, never to return. They are the beſt recruits in the world, frugal and hardy, fit to recover a good ſhare of the fiſhery upon their own coaſts; or to aſſiſt us in any rough ſervice by ſea or land, and for our napery; and to ſtore our *American* colonies; which to them would be a paradiſe, in compariſon of their own country. Whites are ſtewards as ſoon as they arrive: but we have moſt need of them for *Newfoundland*, a large and rich territory, and, by right, his majeſty's iſland, but a part of it lately uſurped by the *French*.

THE

THE like, I ſay, for half a ſheet weekly in *Dublin*, for all *Ireland*; and I do preſume to name Mr. *Conyers* as fit for the purpoſe, and Sir *James Shaen*, and Sir *William Petty*, who never fails to exceed all expectation; and many excellent perſons of your honourable relations can give life to this buſineſs.

FOR *Boſton*, in *New England*, where they cannot want fit perſons, nor fit opportunities to diſperſe their prints all over our *American* colonies, I wiſh they would publiſh a ſheet monthly.

BY theſe expedients (as ſlight as they ſeem) I dare engage that you would ſoon have thouſands of votaries, and, perhaps, many conſiderable aſſiſtants to affront the atheiſtical ſcoffers: and this is to vere about, in the ſailors phraſe.

SIR, I have much more to ſay, but I muſt beg your pardon for this intolerable burthen which (by the iniquity of the times) we are conſtrained to bear, and to afflict our beſt friends with a ſhare of it.

SIR, I pray for you, and for all your noble relations, particularly my great and conſtant friend, my lady viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*'s, and all her's, and am,

SIR,

your ever obliged,

moſt affectionate, humble ſervant,

J. B.

O WHAT a goodly ſight it was to ſee our grandees in the open theatre laugh and grin at the rupture of their own ſolemnly ſubſcribed parole! to prefer a moſt ſlanderous fable with an adulterous maſquerade, which barbarians and ſavages would abhor, in ſuch gibberiſh, as their lacqueys derided, before the ſerious intereſts of all mankind! Gentlemen of honour for *Crim Tartars* court, grand buffoons! what can the Abhorrers ſay for this? *Eadem fides utrinque.* A nation bewitched, and *Shadwell* the Dramatiſt for the *Lancaſhire* witches, fitter indeed than for the virtuoſi. I have a *Latin* iambic for the laureat atheiſts, that may ſave eſquire *Ketch* the labour: it is as ſharp as *in iben*; but where are their contributions? all drowned in the ſame parole? yet it is as good as ſome of their bonds.

P. S. SIR, I wiſh that ſome of theſe lines in the margin, remark 1, 2, 3, *&c.* were worthy to be entered, *ab incognito*, in the Memorials, where there are good hints for the city, or for the kingdom, and they ſhould be briefly mentioned in the firſt advertiſement of the Gazette. This done three or four times, would make the Memorials paſs as far as the Gazettes, and be more welcome, effectual, and everlaſting. I pray pardon this trifling. The right management of fame is a powerful myſtery, as lord *Bacon* ſhews, in his Fragment of Fame. I was once expert at it, by Sir *H. Wotton*'s inſtructions, and it is my main deſign, as the beſt ſtrength of this addreſs; which with better help and good conduct, all the wheels being put into motion, may turn the ſtream, and do much good to many good people, and confound the proudeſt of God's daring enemies, *Deo adjuvante.* God bleſs the promoters.

THE TITLE.

Friendly advice and encouragement for the advancement of London, *and this whole monarchy, in true piety, the nobleſt arts, the beſt culture, and in all the branches of ſound and uſeful knowledge.*

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *Yeovell, July* 1, 1682.

I HASTEN theſe, to correct a notorious fault in a long letter, which I ſent for you hence *June* 26th, and to make ſome conſiderable additions, and to beſeech you, if any of my lines be thought fit for the Memorials, to divide them in ſome fit joint, that they may not take up too much room in any one tract of the Memorials.

SIR, my great fault was, that I did not do right to Dr. *Tillotſon*; having not ſeen his book ſince it was firſt publiſhed. Having his books now in my hand, I deſire it may run thus———I ſhall only name, as our near concernment, the reverend Dr. *Tillotſon*, dean of *Canterbury*, the firſt vol. fourth edit. printed for Mr. *Gellibrand*, 1680-81, where he ſhews, 1. The unreaſonableneſs of atheiſm, and ſcoffing at religion. 2. And recommends religion to men, from the great and manifold advantages which it brings both to public ſociety, and to particular perſons. 3. He repreſents the excellencies more particularly of the Chriſtian religion. 4. He perſuades men to the practice of this holy religion. On 2 *Peter* iii. 3. p. 99. in the moſt powerful language, and the moſt moving arguments, he ſaith enough to reclaim atheiſts and ſcoffers, if they were not more ſenſeleſs, and more unreaſonable, than brutes, or ſtocks and ſtones. And on *Prov.* iv. 34. p. 131. he ſhews, that it is the uſual courſe of God's providence, to recompenſe religious and virtuous nations with temporal bleſſings, and proſperity; and, on the other hand, that God many times ſuffers the moſt grievous ſins of particular perſons to go unpuniſhed in this world; but that the general and crying ſins of a nation cannot hope to eſcape public judgments, unleſs they be prevented by a general repentance. And p. 145. he ſhews, that this atheiſtical humour among Chriſtians was the ſpawn of the groſs ſuperſtitions, and corrupt manners of the *Romiſh* church and court: that in the laſt age atheiſm travelled over the *Alps*, and infected *France:* and now of late it hath croſſed the ſeas, and invaded our nation; and it hath prevailed to amazement: that he doth not think, that there are any people in the world that are generally more indiſpoſed to it, and can worſe brook it; ſerioufneſs and zeal in religion being almoſt the natural temper of the *Engliſh*. So that nothing is to me (ſaith he) matter of greater wonder, than that in a grave and ſober nation, profaneneſs ſhould ever come to gain ſo much ground, and the beſt and wiſeſt religion in the world to be made the ſcorn of fools.——I ſpeak it knowingly (ſaith he) a man can hardly paſs the ſtreets without having his ears grated and pierced with ſuch horrid and blaſphemous oaths, and curſes, as are enough, if we were guilty of no other ſin, to ſink a nation. And this not only from the tribe that wear liveries, but from thoſe that go before them, and ſhould give better example.

To this I add the reverend Dr. *Parker*, arch-deacon of *Canterbury*'s Demonſtration of the divine authority of the law of nature, and of the Chriſtian religion; in two parts: printed for Mr. *Royſton* and Mr. *Chiſwell*, 1681. I do not think there was a fitter treatiſe written ſince the apoſtle's age, for our nation, in our circumſtances; ſince pride and prodigality, luxury, and all exceſſes do abound amongſt us, to the utmoſt peril of the city, and of this whole monarchy, as Mr. *Mun* the merchant, like a wiſe and pious Chriſtian, hath demonſtrated fully in his third and nineteenth chapter, highly approved by the wiſeſt of our ſtateſmen, and therefore licenſed in *Whitehall*. Sir, I will ſay no more of doctor *Parker*'s book, becauſe it will take up too much room in the Memorials to give a full account of it, though in a breviate.

BUT ſince the author of the Memorials ſeems well inclined to give quick touches in behalf of religion, I wiſh that the *Voice of the Nation* were reprinted in ſmall, that he may give notice in one of his Memorials, of that weighty and invincible argument, that the atheiſm and debaucheries of this nation, above all nations that ever we heard

of, is the moſt likely expedient to introduce popery among us. And I doubt not, but I could ſend a pregnant hint againſt our national debauchery for every Memorial, as long as it ſhall pleaſe God to preſerve my life, who am now entering the 80th year of my age. Sir, I muſt now omit the additions which I intended, as above-mentioned. And I pray for you, and for all your noble relations, which have always been my great and ſureſt friends.

SIR,

your ever obliged and moſt humble ſervant,

J. BEALE.

POSTSCRIPT.

SIR, what I wrote of Dr. *Spratt*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *New England*, I humbly conceive fitter to be done by the Royal Society, than to be entered into the Memorials; and I have ſomething conſiderable to add concerning the beſt culture, to make good the title at the bottom of my laſt. And I hope by your favour I may paſs incognito, as I have done often by my deceaſed friend, Mr. *Oldenburg*'s favour, in his Philoſophical Tranſactions. And if my letters are too heavy for you, I pray you eaſe yourſelf by referring them, with my humble ſervice, to Mr. *Warr* the elder, that he may ſuggeſt to you what he thinks proper, when he finds you at beſt leiſure.

Yeovell, *July* 8, 1682.

[I pray firſt ſee my poſtſcript in the laſt clauſe of the incloſed paper.]

Honourable SIR,

I SHOULD be now aſhamed to give you this third trouble, ſo ſoon after my laſt of *July* firſt, if I had not met newly with an ugly buſineſs, for which the Royal Society is nearly concerned. For ſome will bid them ſweep clean before their own doors; *medice cura teipſum*; they will ſay the virtuoſi do now publickly declare againſt all the fundamental virtues, and commend prodigality, pride, vanity and luxury, to be for the good of the nation.

SIR, this you may ſee in Mr. *Houghton*'s collection of letters for huſbandry and trade, number 5. pag. 52. line 15. and in the laſt line of that number.

I WROTE to him with as much affection as I could expreſs, and with the beſt arguments of reaſon and divinity that I could ſuggeſt, to retract it, as a damnable ſentence, contrary to all the hiſtories that I have ſeen, and eſpecially the whole tenor of the holy ſcriptures; and I referred him to Mr. *Mun*'s third and nineteenth chap. where he demonſtrates the contrary, like a religious and wiſe man. Mr. *Houghton*, number 6. p. 59, 60, 61, 62. goes on higher than before, and writes to me, that he had read both thoſe chapters, and could find matter enough there, in which he contradicted himſelf, and juſtified Mr. *Houghton*'s ſentiment, *&c.*

SIR, if we take notice of his name, quality, or tracts, we ſhall ſpread the blot wider, but for a perfect cure of it, this I humbly propoſe. When I have ſaid what I have ſaid for doctor *Parker*'s Demonſtration, I will raiſe an anſwer to Mr. *Houghton*'s objection thus ——. If it be objected, what will become of our *Eaſt-Indian* and *Turky* trade, and other commerce, which I think is almoſt univerſal, if we be ſo ſtrict and ſevere for ſober and Chriſtian virtues; and do not allow of exceſſes in proportion to the largeneſs of our commerce, that we may ſpend the ſtores which are brought home: to this I will anſwer, firſt, with Mr. *Mun*'s demonſtrations; the moſt judicious (I think) that ever wrote for the foreign trade of *England*. Secondly, I will anſwer with the fulneſs of theological demonſtrations, ſhewing how ſuch exceſſes in pride and

luxury (according to the proportions of the increaſing and abounding commerce) have been the ruin and precipitancy of all the greateſt empories, and of all the monarchies, that have ever yet been, and that it ſhall ever be ſo; God having ſo often and expreſly declared it in his word revealed, and in his terrible deeds executed in the face of all the world.

AND firſt I will begin with Mr. *Mun*'s demonſtration, as a ſure remedy to prevent it, and worth millions yearly to *London* and this monarchy, if duly regarded, Chap. 3. pag. 22. A ſtaple or magazine (ſaith he) for foreign corn, indico, ſpices, raw ſilk, cotton, wool, or any other commodities whatſoever to be imported, will increaſe ſhipping, trade, treaſure, and the king's cuſtoms, by exporting them again, where need ſhall require, *&c.* Much more there to the ſame purpoſe; and in the ſame chapter, pag. 15. we ſhould ſoberly refrain from exceſſive conſumption of foreign wares, in our diet and raiment, with ſuch often change of faſhions, as is uſed—which vices at this preſent are more notorious amongſt us, than in former ages, *&c.* Again, chap. 19. pag. 155, 156, 157, 158, 159. and generally throughout that chapter, and in the aforementioned chapter, he charges the *Engliſh* to be the moſt prodigious waſters and conſumers in the world, to have far outgone the *Hollander* in the ſwiniſh vice of drunkenneſs; to pull the pot from their noſe, to the great hurt and diſhonour of this famous nation: and much more there than I muſt repeat. This diſcourſe was addreſſed to the earl of *Southampton*, lord high treaſurer, after the author's death, and highly approved by the wiſeſt of our ſtateſmen; as partly appears, in that it was licenſed at *Whitehall*, *March* 24, 1663, by the principal ſecretary of ſtate. If thoſe, which were beſt able to judge of theſe matters of ſtate, had diſcerned them, certainly they would not have licenſed ſuch falſe principles, which could have hindered trade or commerce; and how much have our exceſſes, luxury, and debaucheries abounded, ſince this treatiſe hath been written or publiſhed! I ſay nothing to hinder the ancient hoſpitality of the city, nor the decency of their apparel, nor the great variety of liquors or drinks, partly hinted in the Weekly Memorials, number 21. pag. 115, 116. But that our exceſſes in any kind ſhould go ſo much beyond the exceſſes of *Rome*, *Madrid*, *Amſterdam*, or any empire that we can hear of. This brings us back to the juſt reproach of ſurpaſſing the effects of the *Romiſh* ſuperſtition and fopperies, in the worſt and moſt dangerous vices, which a reverend perſon ſaid before were in former days the ſpawn of the *Romiſh* fopperies.

SECONDLY, for the demonſtration by God's holy word, and deeds, that ſuch exceſſes are the ſure fore-runners of the ruin and precipitancy of the greateſt cities and monarchies in the world, from the beginning until this day, I will only refer to a ſermon preached to the houſe of commons, *Nov.* 13, 1678, by the reverend Dr. *Stillingfleet*. That excellent ſermon is wholly engaged in thoſe proofs, eſpecially from pag. 17. ſecond edition.

SIR, I am ſo large, with a great deſire to make this buſineſs clear and ſure; and I wiſh again, that the *Voice of the Nation* may be reprinted again in ſmall, ſuch ſtore of them, that ſome of them may be ſtitched to the Memorials, and diſperſed throughout the kingdom, only mentioned (according to the purport of it) in the Memorials.

SIR, I have many more remarkables of quite another nature, which ſeem to me of ſuch importance, that they do lie heavy upon my ſpirit, and conſtrain me to ſtir every ſtone, and to trouble my beſt friends to make them paſs current.

AND by my infirmities I am conſtrained to dictate extempore, and do want a friend to aſſiſt me. I intreat, that *Whitehall* may not be mentioned in any of my lines, nor any word that ſeems to reflect upon the place, nor the word gallants; I confine my expreſſions to *Hobbians* and *Stubbians*, atheiſts, ſcoffers, blaſphemers. Where I ſay of doctor

doctor *Tillotſon*, that he ſaid enough to reclaim all the ſcoffers, which are not more ſenſeleſs, it ſhould be thus; which are not as ſenſeleſs and as unreaſonable as brutes, or ſtocks and ſtones. There are other errata.

SIR, I ſhall be loth to trouble you again in this kind, but if you pleaſe to appoint your ſervant to direct me how I may addreſs it ſafely; perhaps I may draw up in a half ſheet the right managery of fame, as I was inſtructed by Sir *H. Wotton*, and have by frequent trials found it more ſtupenduouſly effectual than myſelf could have imagined. If *London* had a great fault, and had no ears to hear (as I had prepared all the great reſorts of the city) by veering about, firſt to remoteſt cities, having God and a good cauſe on my ſide; I could make the check come thundering into the city, that they ſhould all take it to be *vox Dei*, *non hominis*; and make the echo continue as long as I pleaſe, or revive it when I pleaſe, without any the leaſt danger to myſelf, or any others.

SIR, I beſeech you give my moſt humble ſervice to the right honourable viſcounteſs *Ranelagh*, and yourſelf to accept of the ſincere devotion of

your moſt obliged
and moſt humble ſervant,
J. BEALE.

WE ſee that God hath been gracious and bountiful to us, above many other nations, in preſerving and bleſſing us with peace and plenty, with a univerſal commerce, and with a great advancement in uſeful arts and ſciences, in manufactures, mechanicals, and all ſorts of good culture (of which I have much to ſay hereafter:) and now we ſhould be notoriouſly ingrateful, if we ſhould abuſe God's graces, mercies, and bounty, with pride, luxury, and wantonneſs, whereas we are the more bounden to give God the glory by our true humbleneſs and ſuitable induſtry. And this is a good leſſon, and Mr. *Mun*'s book a moſt excellent book, well for *Dublin* as for *London*; that they may not ſtrive which ſhall exceed the other in pride and vanity; (which if it be not prevented) threatens a ſudden ruin to us all.

WE may get nobler employment, than to glory in gay clothes, to enſlave ourſelves to *French* faſhions, and to pay monthly penſions to *French* taylors; to obey the precepts of *Heliogabalus*.

Eat, drink, and play, whilſt thou art here,
For death invites to no good chear.

And to imitate *Tricongium*, who had his name for drinking three gallons of wine at one draught, *ſupernaculum*, as good fellows call it.

BUT thrice happy *Scotland*, which was never infamous, or blamed for extravagant apparel, and effeminate toys. Their thiſtle, (a wild one for it is no artichoke, which is a civil thiſtle) with the old motto, *Nemo me impune laceſſit*, hath been long ſince ſo conſiderable, as to oblige the *Engliſh* roſes and the *French* lilies, and hath been conſtantly, and is, to this day, for truſt and valour, guardian to the *French* king in all his glory. As poor as he is, he is able to purchaſe both the *Indies*, when he pleaſeth, by the royal fiſhery, which attends on their coaſts, and all their iſlands; and to ſecure *Newfoundland* and the Bank (the marvel of the ſea) to the intereſt of this monarchy; and to recover queen *Elizabeth*'s whale-fiſhing in *Greenland*, and to enlarge our preſent whale-fiſhing in *New England*, *Bermudas*, *&c.* See Phil. Tranſ. numb. 8. pag. 132. and fuller, numb. 40. p. 793. and to aſſure his majeſty of enlarging his dominions in the new and old world, both by ſea and land. Thus far, and in many other reſpects,

the plain and hardy breeding of *Scotland* is to be preferred before all the preſent delicacies, pride, and exceſſes of *London* and *Dublin*. The genial poet, *Horace*, ſhews how our nobility and gentry ought to be bred.

Carm. lib. 3. ode 2.

Anguſtam, amice, pauperiem pati.

and in a good part of the next following ode 3. Theſe ſhould be tranſcribed, as they are elegantly tranſlated; and *Columella in præfat. omnis enim (ſicut M. Varro)* for thirty lines worthy to be engliſhed, ſhews how the *Romans*, by their ſoft and theatrical breeding, were degenerated, as if he had ſeen how our gentry paſs from the bawdy plays to bawdy houſes, neglecting all good culture, and their ancient hardineſs. And *Gratius Cyneg.* pag. 17. tells us in elegant verſe,

Nec luxus alios avidæque impendia vitæ,
Noſcant; hæc magno redit indulgentia damno, &c.

about twenty more verſes, ſhewing how luxury has been the ruin of all monarchies. To this may be annexed Mr. *Waſe*'s accurate tranſlation. Laſtly, Pſalm 1. againſt ſcoffers, and Pſalm 14. againſt atheiſts, in Dr. *Woodford*'s paraphraſe, will perfect the old proofs. *Dan Scargill*, fellow of C. C. Coll. in *Camb.* being ejected out of the univerſity, for profeſſing himſelf an *Hobbiſt*, made his recantation in theſe words: that this *Hobbiſm*, or atheiſm, is the accurſed root of all that abounding wickedneſs, perjury, ſacrilege, debauchery and uncleanneſs, in this preſent age, pag. 6. in Great St. *Mary*'s, *July* 25, 1669. This recantation may eaſily be printed in half a ſheet; and then being fairly mentioned in the Memorials, the ſtationer will be ſufficiently repaid, and all the kingdom take notice of the record. We have need to apply all our engines to ſtop, or turn out of *England*, this polluted ſtream of iniquity; *Deo propitio, & adjutore noſtro.*

THE young ſtudents of *Oxford* were, by God's wonderful mercy, delivered from the ſame, or worſe temptations, as they were inceſſantly aſſaulted by great wits, of great titles. Now, by God's mercy, both univerſities are raiſed to be juſtly eſteemed the mirror and wonder of the world, for ſound religion, and for all the moſt excellent arts and ſciences.

THE Memorials do now fill up the whole ſheet, as at firſt; and they ſeem to me to grow better and better, and willing to repreſent religious impreſſions to the beſt advantage.

Sir ROBERT MORAY *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

My Noble Friend, *October* 7, 1661.

THE bearer delivered me yours of 2. in your ſiſter my lady *Ranelagh*'s preſence, where I could neither handſomely read it, nor queſtion him concerning you. I I mean to know all he can tell me, when I give him this, and furniſh him what to ſay, when you queſtion him concerning your friends here; only one thing I ſhall ſay for us all, if you did but wiſh us to be with you, as ſtrongly as we wiſh you to be with us, I am ſomewhat diſpoſed to be of the opinion you would draw *Greſham* college to *Oxford*. But I could find in my heart to quarrel with you upon the public account, of your reſolute depriving us too long of your company, if I had not a ſingular indulgence for you. Therefore I will rather entice you hither, than force you. The king hath

hath been moſt graciouſly pleaſed to grant the deſires in our petition, and you ſhould not be away from the finiſhing what you helped to contrive and promote. We could allow thoſe at *Oxford* any thing with leſs envy, than the fruition of thoſe perſons, whoſe preſence with us can only turn the ſcales on our ſide: but if juſtice alone prevail not to make you haſte to us, let your affection to the promoting of our buſineſs work: and if kindneſs may be allowed any place in the account, remember there is nobody at *Oxford*, nor perhaps any where elſe, hath ſo ſincere and intimate an affection for you, as,

my noble friend,

your faithfuleſt humble ſervant,

R. MORAY.

THE friends you remembered in particular, return your kindneſs heartily. You ſhould not mind of ſo cutting misfortunes, as being out of the way when you were to ſee me. I know you are not to be charged with forgetfulneſs, and I dare truſt your diſcretion, without ſcruple. Our main buſineſs ſticks ſtill where it did.

To Sir ROBERT MORAY.

Whitehall, July 15, 1672.

TILL now I could not anſwer yours. That which you wrote to Mr. *Aſhurſt* was readily anſwered after it was preſented, which was after a ſecond attempt, he having been in the country when the firſt was made: and yeſterday I made out fifty, and delivered it to our friend, from whom I expect a letter to put within this. He knows not yet of any help I had to make out the matter; but that may be help another time. It will now be *Friday* next before he part. I have this day talked with him pretty fully of all matters, and eaſily prevailed with him, that you and lord *Brereton*, and he and I, and another friend, may confer of the whole buſineſs. I took riſe from his ſhewing me your letter, and the importance of the matter. Therefore I do by all means deſire you may take journey the very next day after this comes to your hands, which I hope will be by to-morrow at night; for I could gladly have you here on *Wedneſday*, if poſſible, that we may have the more time to conſider and talk of things. I did not think fit to tell our friend I had writ to you, though I think you meant my letter, when you told him you had heard of his leaving us; though I will own it to him, when I ſee him next. We have no manner of news more than is in the Gazette, that I know of, worth writing. Haſte hither, and let me know when you arrive. Adieu.

Letters from Dr. JOHN WALLIS *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Oxon. Dec.* 30, 1661.

THIS, I ſuppoſe, may be at you time enough to wiſh you a happy new year; and many more to enſue. It brings with it a part of that in print, which you had before an account of in writing (for it was thought fit by friends that it ſhould alſo appear in this dreſs.) You might have had the whole ere this, had the preſs been as much at leiſure, and as diligent (or rather not ſo much at leiſure, but as diligent) as I could wiſh.

I AM now upon another work; as hard almoſt as to make Mr. *Hobbes* underſtand a demonſtration. It is to teach a perſon dumb and deaf to ſpeak, and to underſtand a language: of which if he could do either, the other would be more eaſy; but knowing

ing neither, makes both the harder. And though the former may be thought the more difficult, the latter may perhaps require as much of time. For, if a conſiderable time be requiſite for him, that can ſpeak one, to learn a ſecond language; much more for him, that knows none, nor hath ſo much as the advantage of ſpeech.

You may think, perhaps, that it is not a piece of mathematics, to teach either ſpeech, or language; as Mr. *Hobbes*, that the attendants of *Jupiter* were not found out by algebra. But though I am in this fully of his opinion, yet I muſt in that except to yours, at leaſt thus far, that I find it therein no ſmall advantage to have been verſed in mathematics.

I WAS the more willing to attempt it, becauſe the perſon was repreſented as very ingenious and apprehenſive (and at leaſt ſo much of a mathematician, as to limn very well, being taught it by ſome of the beſt maſters in *London*.) And I was the more confident that the defect was not in the organs of ſpeech, (though poſſibly not ſo pliable as in a child, to the forming of unacquainted ſounds) not only upon the common preſumption, that the defect of ſpeech in deaf perſons is but an accidental conſequent of their want of hearing: but alſo becauſe he could once ſpeak (though ſo long ſince that he does not remember it) till that about five years of age, having by accident loſt his hearing, he thereupon loſt his ſpeech alſo: not at once, but gradually; that is, he was about half a year in loſing it.

HE had, before he came, learned to write, I mean, as an *Engliſh* ſcrivener writes *Greek*; of which he knows neither the ſound nor ſenſe; and thereby hath ſaved me ſo much labour as the teaching him an alphabet: but hears either ſo little, or not at all, that I cannot, as I hoped, make any advantage of it. He cannot, from the back-ſide of my houſe, (which is a little more than a ſtone's caſt, and no obſtacle between) hear St. *Mary*'s great bell ring; nor, in *Chriſt Church* choir, hear the organs. Cloſe at his ear he can hear a ſound, but not a voice, (unleſs I ſhould rather ſay he feels it:) I mean, he diſcerns a noiſe, but not the articulation; and of a ſmart ſound, rather than a loud. When a coach at night ruſhing cloſe by the window, I perceived he diſcerned it: aſking whether he heard it, he ſignified no, but he felt it, by the ſhaking of the ground.

HE hath now been with me a fortnight, and ſomewhat more. In which time, as to the language, he hath already learned many words, and ſomewhat of the Syntax. And, as to ſpeech, hath pronounced all the ſounds of our language (even thoſe of *L* and *R*, and thoſe of *th* in *thy* and *thigh*, which the *French* and others complain of as moſt difficult, and can hardly attain unto) which ſecures me, that the organs of ſpeech are not indiſpoſed to the forming of articulate ſounds: and at ſome of theſe he is very ready, though he cannot at pleaſure command them all.

IF you aſk what my conjecture is as to the iſſue, or what I do deſign in it; I muſt confeſs, that as to the matter of ſpeech, though I doubt not but he may come to ſpeak any thing, yet I do not expect that he ſhall make the like advantage of it as thoſe that hear: becauſe, that neither hearing himſelf nor others, he will be ſubject to forget or miſtake in forming ſounds; and not to correct thoſe miſtakes, becauſe he hears them not. For as one, who knows very well how to write, and hath a good command of his hand, yet if he want either ſight or light, will hardly write well; the like muſt be expected in a deaf man's ſpeaking; for, as then the eye guides the hand, ſo here, the ear the tongue. But as to the language, I know not but that he may, by writing, both expreſs his own, and underſtand the conceptions of others, as well as other men; and ſo converſe with men, as we do with the ancients, or perſons diſtant, which is no ſmall advantage in human affairs: and may very much ſupply the defect of ſpeech.

You

You may pleaſe to acquaint Sir *Robert Moray* with this adventure, who is himſelf ſo much a virtuoſo, that he is the more inquiſitive what others are doing; and will not allow me to be unemployed: but whether he will infer that I am buſy, or was much at leiſure, I cannot tell. Nor that I further treſpaſs on your preſent affairs, than to ſay, that I am,

your honour's affectionate
and very humble ſervant,
JOHN WALLIS.

SIR, *Oxon, May* 6, 1662.

YOU will excuſe me for not returning you my thanks for yours (ſo full of civility and reſpect) when you underſtand, that I had nothing elſe to ſend with it, that might be worth giving you that trouble: and yet pardon this at preſent, which waits on you with this only addition, that I have thoughts of waiting on you myſelf next week. At which time I may poſſibly preſent you with ſomewhat as acceptable as the laſt, but in another kind. For I ſhall bring with me (I ſuppoſe) a perſon on whom I have made an attempt lately of teaching him to ſpeak, though he cannot hear; wherein your curioſity may poſſibly make you deſirous of underſtanding what progreſs I have made. Which being of ſuch a nature, as not to be ſo ſatisfactory in a repreſentation to the eye as to the ear, I ſhall forbear the narrative, and refer it till you may receive a perſonal account thereof from himſelf, and from,

SIR,

your very humble ſervant,
JOHN WALLIS.

SIR, *Oxon, March* 27, 1663.

THE incloſed is in obedience to your commands laid upon me, when I waited on you at *London*. If it be too large, you may extract out of it as ſhort a one as you pleaſe; and if it may ſeem in ought too ſhort, there is ſcope of enlarging it as far as you ſhall think fit. The deſign is ſo ordered as to obviate the inconveniencies, and to reſerve as much of convenience as well may be. The other command, which I received in order to Dr. *Pocock*, I have endeavoured to obſerve ſo far as was in me. I acquainted him with your deſire; but he tells me, that to give account of all the longitudes and latitudes in *Abulfeda*, is, in a manner, to tranſcribe the whole book; for it contains little elſe but the longitude and latitude of places, with ſome very brief deſcriptions of them in two or three lines, and not digeſted into diſtinct tables, but to be collected out of the text. But he tells me, that Mr. *Clark* is deſigning ſomewhat out of him and other geographers compared; which perhaps may better ſatisfy the deſire of the gentleman, than a bare account of *Abulfeda* alone. I hoped to have given a ſpeedier account of both, had not ſomewhat elſe ſo often interpoſed. Your goodneſs, I truſt, will excuſe the delay, and accept the endeavours of,

SIR,

your honour's very humble ſervant,
JOHN WALLIS.

SINCE I had written thus much, Mr. *Hyde* (the under library-keeper) tells me, that if you pleaſe, he will collect out of *Abulfeda* the longitudes and latitudes, and

transmit to you (I suppose he will expect some gratuity for his pains.) He hath lately, for the bishop of *Exeter*, transcribed out of *Ulegh Beig* the longitude and latitude of all the fixed stars, according to his observations. If you think it *tanti*, and gave me such order, I will desire him to undertake it.

SIR, *Oxon, Sept.* 10, 1663.

I HAVE with very great content and satisfaction gone through that book of yours, wherein you have so very charitably obliged mankind. You will easily believe, though I should not tell it you, that in so short a time it were not possible for me to consider so much variety of good matter, suitably to the worth of it. Which though it be true, yet doth not arise from want of respect to it, but from mine impotence and utter inability to pass a particular judgment of chemical processes, being so nothing of a chemist myself. And therefore, the animadversions, which you invite me to make, you may be secure, will not concern any thing of that kind. The papers inclosed come so rudely, because I could not judge what is in them to be worth writing twice, which I fear you will have reason to think not worth reading once. And if after (or before) you have once read them, you will please to let them help make a fire under one of your learned furnaces, it will be a greater honour than they deserve. For by that means, they may give some light to some of your works.

BUT your mention of some specifics you have for distempers in *genere nervoso*, minds me of what I thought to have discoursed with you, but neglected, when I had the opportunity concerning some very odd and dangerous symptoms in a relation of mine (my brother's wife) so good a person, and so useful, that her life and health are very well worth the preserving. In order to which I have transcribed the account of her case, as her physician (a good chemist, and successful practitioner, the same I mention in the inclosed papers) did upon my request draw it up to send to Dr. *Willis*; together with what afterwards I did myself observe. If you have any arcanum, which you judge proper in the case, by communicating the medicine (though you keep your secret) you will not only do a great work of charity to her, and in her to many more, and very much oblige,

SIR,

your honour's very humble servant,

JOHN WALLIS.

Inclosed in the preceding.

25° *Julii*, 1663.

UXOR Dom. Wallis Ashfordiensis, Cant. habitus mediocris, temperamenti melanophlegmatici, quadragesimum agens annum, victu euchymo ut plurimum utens, ab incunabulis plerumque valetudinaria existens, rarissimè cum morbo ullo acuto (exceptis variolis) tentata, semperque pro scorbutica suspecta; post varia & innotata symptomata leviora, quæ annis præteritis quandoque passa fuit, sub autumni superioris initio, dolore lateris dextri, pleuritico haud multum dissimili, prehensa est: cui, phlebotomiâ præsidiisque aliis levibus, pacato, paulatim successit dolor acutissimus, mordicans & pungens, sub mucronatâ cartilagine, quandoque ad umbilicum fere, quandoque ad costas nothas dextras, quandoque ad ilia dextra se porrigens; unâ vel alterâ post pastum horâ delapsâ, ægrotam invadens: quem gradatim supervenit oris ventriculi (post sumptum cibum, ut antea) superioris morsus acerbissimus, animi fere deliquium secum trahens, per circuitus revertens, cum respiratione frequenti, & fere interceptâ, oscitatione, ructatione, vellicatione, & sæpissimè totius quasi ventriculi convulsione; nunquam illam

illam jejunum invadens, neque poſt ſumptum panem neque frumentacea edulia inhauſta; ſed tantummodo quum victitaſſet carnes fere quaſcunque: unde per totam hyemem, frumentaceo & triticeo victu, vinoque generoſo, contenta remanſit; ſæpiſſime etiam per menſem ampliuſve temporis, tali regimine, immunis evaſit, ſolitis fungens muneribus domeſticis, placideque noctes trahens, ſatiſque hilariter inter vicinos ſe gerens; paroxyſmis prædictis (quando invaſere) magis magiſque ſenſim minuentibus. Vere ingrediente, omnia mitiora facta, prædictis ſymptomatibus in totum fere evaneſcentibus. Ingruente æſtate, corporis illius ſtatus non procul à naturali & eucratico videbatur, eduliiſque quibuſcunque & placuit veſcens, ſineque moleſtia ferens. Attamen ſub menſis præteriti calce ſubito poſt paſtum paroxyſmo præteritis diſſimili correpta eſt; cum dolore hypochondrii dextri, tum gravativo tum pungitivo, cum frequentiſſimâ reſpiratione, & metu ſuffocationis, febriculam ſecum habente, cum urinis coloratis, anxietate inſueta, ſubitaneoque virium lapſu, ut vix loqui vel ſe de loco in locum movere potuit, loquelâ interim gemitibus inſolitis interrupta, & ſummotam, in ultimum vitæ diſcrimen adſtantibus redacta videbatur, ita ut per plures dies in cubiculo vel lecto ſe continebat, unoque eodemque ſtatu per quinque vel ſex dies permanſit, uſitato interim victu utens uti placebat; ſine appetitus dejectione, ventriculi retentricis vel expultricis vitio, vel coctricis imbecillitate; videbatur autem coctio depravata, ſicque ſe habebant facultates ſtomachi per totum morbi decurſum. Hoc inſuper notandum, quod medicamenta purgantia nunquam ferre poſſit. Nunc temporis, omnia leviora ſunt facta, cibos (uti arridenť) capit, ſine ullorum prædictorum ſymptomatum inſultu, vitamque trahit (quam antea) beatiorem, ſine dolore vel triſtitia. Hæc ſunt præcipua, quæ in noſtrâ ægrotâ ſe produnt.

THIS is verbatim the account, which I had from her phyſician (her brother) who had diligently watched her, as you may diſcern by the ſo particular account he gives. Upon diſcourſe with him, he tells me, he had ſometime thought the cauſe of thoſe ſtrange ſymptoms to have been in the coats of the ſtomach (becauſe digeſtion in the ſtomach, and other faculties there, ſeemed not to be much impedited;) ſince that it was rather in the ferment of the ſtomach, but from whence injected (from the pancreas, or whence elſe) was dubious. Her head not moleſted with fumes or aches, nor is ſhe wont to be feveriſh, or otherwiſe (ſave as is related) diſcompoſed. Her ſtomach he complains of as troubled with viſcous matter, or ſuch, as that he can hardly make any medicine faſten on it, which he would willingly move by vomit, but dares not, knowing how deadly ſick ſhe hath been ſome years ſince with that phyſic. Yet once he ventured on a gentle vomit, but durſt not ſtir from her all the while it worked; and is not willing to venture again. And ſome times a pipe of tobacco doth not only repel an approaching fit, but bring up matter ſeemingly as clear as water, but (whether preſently, or after ſome time, I remember not) if ſtirred with a ſtick is ropy and viſcous like the whites of eggs. The moſt of evacuating phyſic, that he uſeth, is now and then ſome very gentle pills, ſcarce more than to keep the body ſoluble. But (beſide what others I know not) the chief remedy he applies (and with good ſucceſs) is an arcanum (which my other papers mention) much of kin to ſpirit of harts-horn; but, he ſaith, more prevalent than either that or ſoot (for he uſeth them all very frequently with his patients;) and I ſuppoſe it is ſome animal ſpirit, but from ſome other animal (yet not ſpirit of blood neither) of which ſhe hath taken abundance, I think conſtantly, about an hour or two before dinner, and before ſupper. To which he attributes what of preſervation or cure is wrought. Dr. *Willis* (upon the account above) hath delivered his judgment of it to be a diſſaffection in *genere nervoſo*; and adviſeth ſpirits of harts-horn, or of ſoot, which agrees well enough with the judgment and courſe already taken. He tells me of a peculiar juice he apprehends to be conveyed by the nerves, quite different from the circula-

tion of the blood. While I was in the country with her (after the date of the paper, which gives account of it) ſhe had ever and anon rather attempts of fits than perfect fits, but ſevere enough, if ſhe had not known worſe, if at any time ſhe did eat either more freely, or more haſtily than ordinary (for ſhe is forced to be very moderate, and very deliberate in eating.) Any ſudden ſurpriſe of paſſion (whether joy, grief, or other) is very apt to diſcompoſe her. Theſe fits keep her very faint and feeble, though not ſick. If they return with the winter, as they were laſt winter, they muſt needs be very dangerous: if but as they are, they muſt weaken, and muſt needs threaten very ill conſequents.

SIR, *Oxford, April* 29, 1665.

YOUR honour doth not expect I ſhould tell you, that I have already read over that excellent book of yours, which I received this day from your favour. But I have already peruſed ſo much thereof, and ſeen therein ſo much of worth, that I ſee great cauſe not only for myſelf to thank you, (which I heartily do) but for mankind to do the like; for ſo much of coſt and pains, which you have ſuſtained to enrich them. Which ſhould they fail to do, you would thence have occaſion to enrich your ſecond title, with one general more, of ſubjects diſpoſed to be frozen; while yet I ſhall deſire to have the honour of being ranked under your third title of ſubjects indiſpoſed; nor ſhall I think, that indiſpoſition to be a diſeaſe, but a duty. Sir, I hope your honour hath received thoſe papers, which on *Monday* laſt I ſent, with a letter directed to your honour, by *Bartlet* the carrier. Which, becauſe of frequent neglects in carriers, I take this occaſion to mention; not that I think them of ſo much worth, as that I ſhould be ſolicitous about the miſcarriage of them; but, that I would not be thought guilty of diſobeying your commands, intimated in your honour's laſt to me; and becauſe I am ambitious of ſubmitting all I do to your honour's judgment, having had ſo oft experience both of your ability to judge, and of your inclination to be favourable to,

SIR,

your honour's very humble
and obliged ſervant,
JOHN WALLIS.

SIR, if you have the opportunity of ſeeing Sir *Robert Moray*, you may pleaſe to repreſent him my humble ſervice; and aſſure him, that as I am ambitious to obſerve all his commands, ſo I ſhall be particularly careful of thoſe concerning the gentleman he recommended to me in his laſt.

SIR, *Oxford, July* 17, 1669.

AFTER my humble thanks for the honour of yours of *July* 3, I thought it not unfit to give you ſome account of our late proceedings here. *Friday, July* 9, was the dedication of our new theatre. In the morning, was held a convocation in it, for entering upon the poſſeſſion of it. Wherein was read, firſt, the archbiſhop's inſtrument of donation (ſealed with his archiepiſcopal ſeal) of the theatre, with all its furniture, to the end that St. *Mary*'s church may not be further profaned by holding the act in it. Next, a letter of his, declaring his intention to lay out two thouſand pounds for a purchaſe to endow it. Then, a letter of thanks to be ſent from the univerſity to him; wherein he is acknowledged to be both our creator and redeemer; for, having not only built a theatre for the act, but, which is more, delivered

livered the bleſſed virgin from being ſo profane for the future, he doth (as the words of the letter are) *non tantum condere, hoc eſt creare, ſed etiam redimere.* Theſe words (I confeſs) ſtopped my mouth from giving a placet to that letter, when it was put to the vote. I have ſince deſired Mr. vice-chancellor to conſider, whether they were not liable to a juſt exception. He did, at firſt, excuſe it; but, upon further thoughts I ſuppoſe he will think fit to alter them before the letter be ſent and regiſtered. After the voting of this letter, Dr. *South*, as univerſity orator, made a long oration. The firſt part of which conſiſted of ſatyrical invectives againſt *Cromwell*, fanatics, the Royal Society, and new philoſophy; the next, of encomiaſtics, in praiſe of the archbiſhop, the theatre, the vice-chancellor, the architect, and the painter; the laſt, of execrations againſt fanatics, conventicles, comprehenſion, and new philoſophy; damning them *ad inferos, ad gehennam.* The oration being ended, ſome honorary degrees were conferred, and the convocation diſſolved. The afternoon was ſpent in panegyric orations, and reciting of poems in ſeveral ſorts of verſe, compoſed in praiſe of the archbiſhop, the theatre, *&c.* and crying down fanatics. The whole action begun and ended with a noiſe of trumpets; and twice was interpoſed variety of muſic, vocal and inſtrumental; purpoſely compoſed for this occaſion. On *Saturday* and *Monday*, thoſe exerciſes appertaining to the act and veſpers, which were wont to be performed in St. *Mary*'s church, were had in the theatre. In which, beſide the number of proceeding doctors (nine in divinity, four in law, five in phyſic, and one in muſic) there was little extraordinary; but only that the *terræ filius*, for both days, were abominably ſcurrilous; and ſo ſuffered to proceed without the leaſt check or interruption, from vice-chancellor, pro-vice-chancellors, proctors, curators, or any of thoſe, who were to govern the exerciſes: which gave ſo general offence to all honeſt ſpectators, that I believe the univerſity hath thereby loſt more reputation, than they have gained by all the reſt; all or moſt of the heads of houſes, and eminent perſons in the univerſity, with their relations, being repreſented as a company of whore-maſters, whores, and dunces. And, among the reſt, the excellent lady, which your letter mentions, was, in the broadeſt language, repreſented as guilty of thoſe crimes, of which (if there were occaſion) you would not ſtick to be her compurgator; and (if it had been ſo) ſhe might (yet) have been called whore in much more civil language. During this ſolemnity, and for ſome days before and ſince, have been conſtantly acted, by the vice-chancellor's allowance, two ſtage plays in a day (beſides thoſe of the duke of *York*'s houſe) at a theatre erected for that purpoſe at the Town-hall; which (for aught I hear) was much the more innocent theatre of the two. It hath been here a common fame for divers weeks (before, at, and ſince the act) that the vice-chancellor had given three hundred pounds bond (ſome ſay, five hundred pounds bond) to the *terræ filius*, to ſave them harmleſs, whatever they ſhould ſay, provided it were neither blaſphemy nor treaſon. But this I take to be a ſlander. A leſs encouragement would ſerve the turn with ſuch perſons. Since the act (to ſatisfy the common clamour) the vice-chancellor hath impriſoned both of them: it is ſaid, he means to expel them. But enough of this.

I AM next to acquaint you with a diſcourſe of another nature; and which, I truſt, will be, if not more acceptable, yet leſs ungrateful than the former. Since the act, Sir *James Langham* (with his lady, and ſome other perſons of quality) did me the honour to dine with me. He is a perſon, of whom I have ſometime heard you ſpeak with very good reſpect; and whom (I think) I may ſafely repreſent as one, who honours you very much, and who hath divers times told me, how ambitious he ſhould be of obtaining a nearer acquaintance with you. He was telling me of an excellent lady, of whom he hath a very great eſteem: and I have the leſs reaſon to think him

miſtaken in his judgment, becauſe he hath had all the opportunities of knowing her very well; having married a ſiſter of hers, and, upon that occaſion, being thoroughly acquainted with the ſtate of that family. It is the lady *Mary Haſtings*, a daughter of the counteſs of *Huntington*, and ſiſter to the preſent earl, and to the lady *Elizabeth*, in whom Sir *James* did think himſelf very happy, while he enjoyed her as his wife. Of this lady he gives ſo high a commendation for her temper, her parts, her worth, her virtues, her piety, and every thing elſe, as makes him extremely ſolicitous to ſee her happy in a ſuitable conſort; and doth profeſs himſelf ſo ſerious in it, that, were it a thing lawful, there is no lady he knows, whom he ſhould ſooner have made choice of, to have ſucceeded her ſiſter in that capacity. It is true, I have not myſelf been ſo happy, as to know that excellent lady; but he, that hath had the opportunity of knowing her ſo well, doth repreſent her, not only ſo accompliſhed, as to make an excellent wife, but particularly as an excellent wife for eſquire *Boyle*; and doth undertake to anſwer all objections, not only which you might make as to the lady, but (which perhaps may be the greater difficulty) as to the condition alſo; and hopes he ſhall be able to ſhew you reaſons, not only to marry her, but to marry. I ſhould have added (though that be a conſideration of leſs moment, than ſome of the reſt) that her portion will be at leaſt four thouſand pounds, and ſo much he will ſee made good; her age, about five or ſix and twenty: and as to her perſon, virtues, and other perfections, you will have ſo many ways of informing yourſelf, that what I might ſay would be ſuperfluous. If I might be a happy inſtrument in making two ſo excellent perſons happy in each other, as he perſuades me I might, if you think fit, I do not know, in what elſe I could more approve myſelf,

SIR,

your honour's very humble,

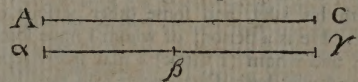
and affectionate ſervant,

JOHN WALLIS.

You will oblige me, to preſent my ſervice to the very good lady, with whom you are; and to preſerve me a place in her good opinion. And you will doubly oblige my wife, at this time, to afford her the like in yours.

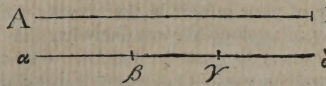
SIR, *Oxford, March* 14, 1676-7.

I HAVE thought fit to give you notice of a diſcovery, that hath been made here (about three years ſince, or more) which I ſuppoſe may not be unacceptable to thoſe of the Royal Society, who are muſical and mathematical. It is this, whereas it hath been long ſince obſerved, that if a viol ſtring, or lute ſtring, be touched with the bow or hand; another ſtring on the ſame, or another inſtrument, not far from it (if an uniſon to it, or an octave, or the like) will at the ſame time tremble of its own accord. The cauſe of it (having been formerly diſcuſſed by divers) I do not now enquire into. But add this to the former obſervation, that not the whole of that other ſtring doth thus tremble, but the ſeveral parts ſeverally, according as they are uniſons to the whole, or the parts of that ſtring, which is ſo ſtruck. For inſtance;

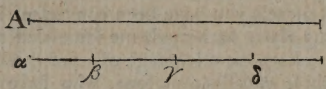


ſuppoſing AC to be an upper octave to $\alpha\gamma$; and therefore an uniſon to each half of it, ſtopped at β. Now if, while $\alpha\beta$ is open, AC be ſtruck, the two halves of this other,

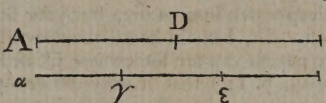
other, that is $\alpha\beta$ and $\beta\gamma$, will both tremble, but not the middle point at β; which will eaſily be obſerved, if a little bit of paper be lightly wrapped about the ſtring $\alpha\gamma$, and removed ſucceſſively from one end of the ſtring to the other. In like manner, if AD be an upper twelfth to $\alpha\delta$, and conſequently an uniſon to its three parts equally



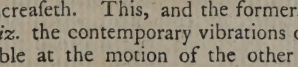
divided in $\beta\gamma$. Now if $\alpha\delta$ being open, AD be ſtruck, its three parts $\alpha\beta$, $\beta\gamma$, $\gamma\delta$, will ſeverally tremble; but not the points $\beta\gamma$, which may be obſerved in like manner as the former. In like manner, if AE be a double octave to $\alpha\varepsilon$; the four quar-



ters of this will tremble when that is ſtruck; but not the points $\beta\gamma\delta$. So, if AG be



a fifth to $\alpha\eta$; and conſequently each half of that ſtopped in D, an uniſon to each third part of this ſtopped in $\gamma\varepsilon$: while that is ſtruck, each part of this will tremble ſeverally, but not the points $\gamma\varepsilon$: and while this is ſtruck, each part of that will tremble, but not the point D. The like will hold in leſſer concords; but leſs remarkably, as the number of diviſions increaſe. This was firſt of all (that I know of) diſcovered by *William Noble*, a maſter of arts, of *Merton* college; and by him ſhewed to ſome of our muſicians about three years ſince; and after him, by Mr. *Thomas Pigot*, a batchelor of arts, and fellow of *Wadham* college, who giving notice of it to ſome others, found, that (unknown to him) the ſame had been formerly taken notice of by Mr. *Noble*, and (upon notice from him) by others, and it is now commonly known to our muſicians here. Of this you will find a particular notice is taken in Dr. *Plott*'s natural hiſtory of *Oxfordſhire*, now in the preſs, and will be ſoon abroad. I add this further (which I took notice of, upon occaſion of making trial of the other) that the ſame ſtring, as $\alpha\gamma$, being ſtruck in the midſt at β (each part being uniſon to the other) will give no clear ſound at all, but very confuſed. And not only ſo (which others alſo have obſerved, that a ſtring doth not ſound clear, if ſtruck in the midſt) but alſo if $\alpha\delta$ be ſtruck at β or γ, where one part is an octave to the other. And in like manner, if $\alpha\varepsilon$ be ſtruck at β or δ, the one part being a double octave to the other. And ſo if α 3 be ſtruck in γ or δ; the one part being a fifth to the



other. And ſo in other like conſonant diviſions. But ſtill the leſs remarkable, as the number of diviſions increaſeth. This, and the former, I judge to depend upon one and the ſame cauſe, *viz.* the contemporary vibrations of the ſeveral uniſon parts; which make the one tremble at the motion of the other: but when ſtruck at the reſpective points of diviſion, the ſound is incongruous, by reaſon that the point is diſturbed, which ſhould be at reſt. I add no more, but that I am,

Yours, *&c.* JOHN WALLIS.

Mr.

Mr. EDWARD STILLINGFLEET *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Sutton, October* 6, 1662.

I HOPE my distance from home (since the time you were pleased to honour me with that great testimony of your respect in that excellent discourse you sent me) will plead something by way of apology for my incivility, in being so backward in expressing my high resentments of so great an honour. Sir, as there is no person in our nation hath more obliged the world than yourself have done, in the discourses you have lately made the world acquainted with, so it is the earnest desire of all such, who value reason and knowledge, that you will please still to employ your excellent pen in a further discovery of those rich mines of experimental philosophy, which with so great happiness and success you have been conversant in. And although the privacy and retiredness of my abode hath made me somewhat uncapable of those high improvements, which others have the advantage of; yet it is here my happiness and delight, to converse with those excellent persons, who have endeavoured to make the world the wiser for their being in it. Among whom your great name is deservedly placed, not only for your deep search into nature, but your successful pains in vindicating the honour of religion. Sir, I could heartily wish you would please to communicate to the world those papers you are somewhere pleased to mention, in behalf of Christianity (against *Hobbes*, p. 11.) that it may be seen yet further, that those great personages, who have courted nature so highly, that her cabinets are open to them, are far from looking on religion as mean and contemptible. But I should be injurious to yourself and the world, to exercise your patience with a tedious letter. The only favour I desire is, that you will please to account among the train of those, who most honour your person and undertakings,

SIR,

your most obliged servant,

EDW. STILLINGFLEET.

LETTERS *from Dr.* LOWER *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Christ-Church, Oxford, Jan.* 18, 1661.

I RECEIVED your letter, and should have wrote to you sooner, but that the doctor was not at leisure till of late to make those dissections of the brain, which he hoped; but at length we have had the opportunity of cutting up several, and the doctor, finding most parts of the brain imperfectly described, intends to make a whole new draught thereof, with the several uses of the distinct parts, according to his own fancy, seeing few authors speak any thing considerable of it; so that at present I shall suspend my thoughts which I had of sending you a relation of the discourse we had in the several dissections, and only tell you, that, according to his opinion of the use of the cerebellum for involuntary motion, he shewed me several times the nerves (which authors call the sixth conjugation) to proceed out of a stalk or stem, which comes down out of the cerebellum, and makes a great half circle under the medulla oblongata, and so returns and ends in that nerve, on each side; which half circle is clearly distinct from the medulla oblongata, by comparing the several texture and position of their fibres, as well as their outward line and figure; so that one may very well conceive, that circle to serve for a distinct and particular use, and to differ from the medulla oblongata, as well as to conceive the spinal marrow, with the medulla oblongata, to be really distinct organs (which is certain from palsies of half the body) and yet they

are

are not thoroughly divided, but only ſuperficially along the middle. The auditory nerves alſo, which lie next behind the other, and go into the os petroſum on each ſide of the ſkull, ſeem to ariſe out of another ring, though leſs than the former; into which ring deſcends alſo that ſtem out of the cerebellum. And *Varolius* formerly affirmed, that the auditory nerves came out of the cerebellum. The doctor likewiſe obſerved the cerebellum to be diſtinguiſhed into two medullary parts, the middle part (which being cut, does ſo elegantly reſemble a tree with branches) being as it were the pars corticalis dividing between the two medullary parts, for what uſe you may hereafter hear. He ſhewed likewiſe the optic nerves plainly to aſcend on each ſide of the bottom of the brain into thoſe two parts on each ſide the rima, about the middle of the medullary ſubſtance of the brain, where he thinks imagination to be performed, whence he judges to be that quick and moſt perfect communication between the ſight and the fancy, there being no ſenſe ſo certain and quick as that. In the cutting up the eye of a little dog, we held up the eye (after we had cut off all the muſcles, and fat, and ſkins, from the outward coat of the eye) to the ſun, and a candle, directing the cone of the light to the very optic nerve, and though it have no cavity as ſome affirm, yet it appeared very light, even as the flame of a fire, a pretty way up the nerve. Whether it may be ſeen in the eyes of greater animals, we have not yet tried, but ſuppoſe it will: and I believe the eye of a creature newly dead will be beſt to make trial, leſt the humours ſhould turn thick, as they do in a day's time. We took likewiſe the vitreal humour out, and dropped it into a glaſs of fair water, and could not find it again, or ſee it in the water; ſo that Dr. *Wallis* would not believe, that the vitreal humour was in the glaſs, till the water being poured away, it appeared in the bottom. We have likewiſe diſſected the ear, and I have prepared a bone full of the bones and parts of the ear for him, when he ſhall be at leiſure to conſider of it. But in all the diſſections we made, we could not diſcern or find that paſſage from the ear to the mouth, which anatomiſts mention to be ſo large, that juglers commonly take tobacco, and force the ſmoke out that way. And there is one Mr. *Henſhaw*, a fellow of *All-Souls*, who, by ſtopping his mouth and his noſtrils, can blow out a candle at either ear, or both at once; which ſeveral of the fellows have ſeen him do very often. He is much deaf, and cannot hear, unleſs the voice be loud, which perhaps may be from that large paſſage or cavity into his mouth, ſo that the tympanum is not affected ſo ſmartly with the ſound, as in others, who cannot ſhew the ſame trick. Some of the dogs which we diſſected, we killed after the butchers way, by cutting in two the ſpinal marrow in the neck, juſt under the occiput, to ſee if the parts below the wound would retain any motion for a little while, becauſe ſome affirm, that ſince the ſpinal marrow is nouriſhed with arteries, as the brain is, that ſpirits are generated in it, for the motion of all the parts along as it goes; but the dogs never ſtirred any part below the wound, (for we did not tie them down to the table on purpoſe to try, but had a ſtrong fellow to hold them down, till execution was done) but the eyes moved and the eye-lids; but whether the heart did beat, becauſe its motion depends upon the nerve of the ſixth conjugation inſide the ſkull, we did not think of trying. I enquired of the doctor, what he thought of the nouriſhment of the liquor, which is thought to be in the nerves; and he told me, he did not think it did much nouriſh, if at all; yet, that there is a liquor in the nerves, he does believe, becauſe he hath often obſerved in thoſe men and women, that uſually are troubled with convulſions, epilepſies, or hyſterical fits, three or four days together, without any long intermiſſion, all that while their urine is little and very red, but afterward, when they recover from thoſe fits, they make water for the like ſpace of three or four days in very large quantity, and very clear, though they drink as little

little or less than formerly, when their fits were on them: the former urine he thinks to come from the blood, the latter he takes to be the water of the nerves; for when this water is made, there is a perfect solution of the disease, and their heads become clear and light, which were before heavy, dull and turbulent.

THE doctor does likewise intend, when he shall have opportunity, to syringe in some kind of liquors, tinctured with saffron, or other colours, into the arteriæ carotides, the brain being first opened, just after the creature is dead, and warm, to try how the blood moves, and how the tincture may be separated in the brain; in the mean time tying some of the nerves, to see if they will swell above the ligature. Upon your relation of your experiment of *Tunbridge* water being syringed into a dog, a little while since I syringed into a dog's jugular vein about two quarts of warm water, and, in a little space, his bladder was very much distended with urine, though a little while before he had discharged himself that way very freely, as usually they do in such solemn frights. I had not the opportunity of doing it again, but intend to try it with several liquors; and I have a fancy to try, how long a dog may live without meat, by syringing into a vein a due quantity of good broth, made pretty sharp with nitre, as usually the chyle tastes taken out of your common receptaculum; for though it be not so finely prepared as chyle is, yet I have a belief, that it may serve turn a pretty while; and since I read the story in *Sneider de Catarrhis*, in quarto, of a man being drunk and bruised with a fall, when he was let blood, at the first tapping of the vein, they that were present immediately smelled the wine more strongly, than if it had been stewed over a fire; I do think, that many liquors may consist with the blood as well as that; broth being nearer to chyle than sack, and consequently more fit to nourish: and doubtless a bitch's milk syringed in the same manner would preserve the life pretty well, if it be done in just time and proportions, were it not, that the milk loses much of that tartness and nitrosity, by circulating in the blood before it is separated again in the breasts, which it had in the vessels before it went into the blood; and if it were not for this change, the chyle and milk would be still the same; and therefore, being syringed often in small quantities might perhaps preserve the life, as the continual instilling of it in, out of the vasa thoracica, into the axillary vein, doth: and, in children, or other persons, who suffer a fluxus chylosus, or diarrhœa, because the glandules of their mesenteries being scrophulous or schirrous, by compressing the vanæ lacteæ, hinder the farther passage of the chyle, and so, consequently, starve the patient, a woman's milk syringed in may somewhat supply the want of their chyle, provided the nurse eat such meats as the patient formerly did, so that the milk may not be too weak or strong for his blood; and this in men might be done better than in beasts, because they can tell, when they are faint, hungry, or thirsty, and so may be satisfied accordingly. When I am in the country, if I can have leisure to attend it, I shall try it in a dog, and I shall get a tin pipe made, about two inches long, and about the usual bigness of the jugular vein, and hollow, which I may put into the vein, by cutting the vein asunder, and drawing on the two ends of it upon the pipe, and tie it round with a thread there to remain, and, in the middle of the pipe, must come out a smaller pipe, fit for the small end of a syringe to go into, which may be stopped with a cork, to take out when need shall require: the figure of it is thus.

There be many inconveniencies would dissuade the trial hereof, as namely, that for want of chyle and liquor in the guts, to dilute and mitigate the choler all along in its passage from the duodenum, the guts may be ulcerated and inflamed, with many more; but howsoever I shall try, either what good or harm will follow. In the mean time, I have nothing more to tell you, but that when I return, I shall bring with me (God willing)

willing) thoſe odd kind of ſtones and minerals, which the miners cannot give an account of; as there be ſome, which are as heavy as lead, and of ſeveral colours, which they cannot tell what they are. But, Sir, I am ſenſible of the great trouble I give you by this long letter, and beg your pardon; which I hope I may the more eaſily obtain, by the aſſurance I give you by my long journey, that I ſhall not offend in the like for a good while. I therefore take my leave, and remain,

your moſt obliged, and
very humble ſervant,
R. LOWER.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Chriſt-Church, Oxon, Nov.* 26, 1662.

I SHOULD have ſent you this incloſed ſooner, but that I have been out of town, ſo that I had not the opportunity of tranſcribing it till now. The doctor hath now perfected the anatomical part likewiſe, but being not ſatisfied in ſome things, I ſuppoſe he will hardly be induced to publiſh them yet a good while. Since my return hither, I have received ſome *Corniſh* diamonds, which I have ſent you, together with this letter. Thoſe, which I gave Mr. *Stall*, were very dull and thick, and but little more tranſparent than alum; ſo that I did not think them worth ſending to you, though I purpoſely procured them for you. I have ſent into *Cornwall* for thoſe mineral pieces, which I mentioned to you, and as ſoon as I receive them, I ſhall acquaint you with it. And when you certify me, what authors you have already collected, you may direct me what other you would have me firſt collect, and I ſhall employ all the leiſure I have to anſwer your expectation therein: and if you pleaſe in your next to communicate unto me thoſe preparations of laudanum, ſpirit of harts-horn, and that ſpecific for the rickets, I ſhall faithfully obſerve thoſe conditions, on which you part with them, and remain,

SIR,
your ever moſt obliged,
and moſt humble ſervant,
RICH. LOWER.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *April* 27, 1663.

HAVING received your letter, I went to the regiſter of the univerſity, who keeps the records of all things acted in the convocation, and regiſters the names of all perſons, who take any degrees; and, by the information I gave him of the time, he preſently found the gentleman in the regiſter of that year, recorded to have been admitted batchelor of phyſic, the very firſt convocation after the earl of *Pembroke*'s coming to viſit the univerſity; but he could not find any thing of his taking a maſter's degree that year, or any other; for he ſearched ſeveral years before and after: ſo that I have ſent what I found (and which, I ſuppoſe, will be ſufficient for the gentleman's purpoſe) atteſted by the regiſter, or public notary, whoſe name is authentic in any certificate; for he being a ſworn officer, his teſtimonial cannot be refuſed: and there is none, that takes any degree, who has any more than his ſingle certificate, or elſe I ſhould have ſent it confirmed with more hands, but that it had not been the uſual way. As for Mr. *Hewes*'s powder, I enquired of Dr. *Willis* concerning it (having ſeen two ſad examples of it myſelf) and he told me, that though he had ſeen it uſed ſometimes ſucceſsfully enough, yet ſince he hath known ſo much harm done by it,

that he would never adviſe any one to venture to take it any more, eſpecially if the perſon be of a lean habit of body; but if the perſon be fat and full, there is not ſo much hazard or inconvenience to be feared. Madam *Walton* made a ſad experiment of it the laſt year; for with one doſe of his powder (which ſhe was perſuaded to take by Dr. *Lamphyre* for the ſcurvy, and fits of the ſpleen) ſhe fell into a great flux, and ſalivated a full half year, without any intermiſſion, which could not be ſtopped with all the drying diet-drinks, purges, bleeding, baths, or any thing, which the doctors at *London* could invent. At length ſhe came down hither, and being reduced to a mere ſkeleton, and not being able to ſleep above an hour or two in a week's time, Dr. *Willis* perſuaded her to drink milk, and nothing elſe, which ſhe did with much refreſhment; but the cold weather coming ſuddenly on, put her again into her former flux, which in three weeks time after ended her miſery: and when ſhe died, I never ſaw a more exact ſkeleton, except that it was clothed with ſkin. Sir, if it may not be a trouble, Dr. *Willis* and myſelf ſhall be very much obliged to you for thoſe paſſages of *Regius*, concerning Dr. *Bill*'s experiment, which he nor I ever ſaw yet, unleſs it be in his *Hepar Redivivum*, which *Bartholine* wrote againſt, and which *N. Stenon* makes mention of in his tract *De Glandulis*. If the meaning of the paſſages be eaſy to comprehend, without the ſcheme, the doctor would by no means give you the trouble of ſending it. Sir, I am very ſorry, that I can give you no account, as yet, of what I promiſed you; for I have been wholly diverted by Dr. *Willis*, whoſe deſire it is, that I ſhould be preſent at his operations, which now are very near finiſhed, and I hope will make ſome apology to you for my idleneſs before long; for the doctor intends, before *Midſummer*, to put his book into the preſs; which is all that I can tell you at preſent, but that I am,

SIR,

your moſt obedient, and humble ſervant,

R. LOWER.

I RETURN you many thanks for the laudanum, which you ſent, and for thoſe other preparations, which you were pleaſed to communicate to me. I have not had much opportunity of trying them as yet, but as ſoon as I can, I ſhall give you an account of the ſucceſs.

DR. *Willis* preſents you his ſervice. Dr. *Bathurſt* is in *London*.

You will take notice of *perſcrutatis* taken paſſively, which I deſired the regiſter to alter for *examinatis*; but he told me, it was the word uſed in the ancient certificates, and therefore was more authentic, than a better word, and truer *Latin*.

Moſt honoured SIR, *June* 4, 1663.

I RECEIVED your papers incloſed in Mr. *Hooke*'s letter long ſince, but have not had an opportunity of returning you my thanks till now; and I hoped, that Dr. *Willis* would have excuſed it, when he went to *London*, but it ſeems he had not the happineſs of finding you at your lodgings. We have read thoſe papers, and find but little conſiderable in them, except only what he mentions about the ventricles of the brain, and that he deſcribes very obſcurely; yet it being ſomewhat agreeable to the doctor's deſcription, hath made him reſolve to print his anatomy forthwith. Dr. *Wren* hath drawn moſt excellent ſchemes of the brain, and the ſeveral parts of it, according to the doctor's deſign, and the next week he will have finiſhed the ſcheme of the eighth pair of nerves, and then all the work is at an end. I ſhall not trouble you with the manner or deſcription of any part of it, but only acquaint you with one

one or two obſervations we lately made: one was in a gentleman's head, (whoſe body we opened for another diſeaſe more fatal to him) in which the carotidal artery in the right ſide (inſide the ſkull) was wholly choked up and obſtructed with a yellow ſubſtance, perfectly hardened into a ſtone, whereby the courſe of blood being totally hindered on that ſide of the brain, did probably come in more vehemently into the other artery on the left ſide of his head, which tormented him very much a quarter of a year before his death, and made him much more impatient of his other diſeaſe. And this reaſon of his hemicrania ſeems more probable by what we have ſeveral times obſerved in others; for in ſome, whom we have opened, we have found both the carotidal arteries all along from the very heart into the brain almoſt filled with a rope, as it were, of congealed blood, turned yellow by long ſtagnation (which is very commonly found in bodies, which lie languiſhing under chronical diſeaſes) ſo that but very little ſpace was left for any blood to paſs through thoſe veſſels; yet both being equally obſtructed, the perſons never complained of any ſuch ſymptom as the man before mentioned. Since that we have made another experiment, which is this. Whereas ſeveral anatomiſts, and particularly *Webſer* in his book *De Apoplexiâ*, finding in ſeveral bodies dead of apoplectical fits the carotidal artery full of ſuch a congealed ſubſtance, as I mentioned before, have made it the chief cauſe of apoplexies; becauſe, as he ſuppoſes, the influx of blood into the brain being by that means totally intercepted, conſequently the ſpirits for want of ſupply muſt extinguiſh, and ſo all ſenſe and motion periſh. All which need not at all to be feared, granting, that both the carotidal arteries were choked up, ſo that not the leaſt drop of blood could paſs through either of them: for the carotidal and vertebral arteries have ſo many anaſtomoſes, ſo divinely contrived inſide the dura mater, before they go up into the brain (as you will ſee exactly deſcribed in the doctor's ſcheme) that if three arteries were quite obſtructed, the fourth would convey blood into all parts of the brain and cerebellum, ſufficient enough for life and motion. And to confirm this, this week we took a young ſpaniel, and tied both the carotidal arteries in the neck very faſt and cloſe with ſilk, and the dog was not at all altered by it, but continued very lively and briſk, and was ſo far from taking unkindly what was done to him, that within a quarter of an hour after, he got looſe and followed the doctor into the town, as he viſited his patients. In this pleaſant humour he continued two or three days, and then we opened his head, and found all the veſſels of the brain as full of blood as uſually they are in other dogs, who did not ſuffer the ſame experiment. But this I might have told you in a ſhorter time; for if one artery be ſyringed with any tincted liquor, all the parts of the brain will equally be filled with it at the ſame time, as ſeveral times we have tried. The other experiment is this. Whereas all authors, and particularly Mr. *Delbaoe* in his Theſes, ſay, that the water falls from the ventricles of the brain by the infundibulum upon the throat and palate, *&c.* we experimented it quite otherwiſe lately in a calf's head, after this manner: under the glandula pituitana in a calf's ſkull, there are commonly one or two holes, which receive veſſels from the glandule, into which hole we ſyringed in milk, and immediately it came out of the jugular veins more ſlowly or faſt, according as the milk was injected; but looking into the mouth, we could not diſcover the leaſt drop of milk; whereupon we tried the ſame with ink, and it came all out of the jugular veins, but not a drop appeared any where about the mouth or throat, nor the leaſt tincture of ink: and to be more ſure, we continued ſyringing and opening the jugular veins, until we followed it to the ſide of the bone, whereon the glandula pituitana lies, and there we found a pretty great veſſel come out of the hole in that bone (in the outſide of the bone) into the very cavity of the jugular vein: and it being thus in that animal, the

doctor's next work is to search and enquire how it is in men, there being great hopes in the mean time, that they both agree, that so the old doctrine of catarrhs may be washed away. There are very many like experiments in the doctor's book, but I shall not give you any farther trouble at this time, but only return you very many thanks for the glass of laudanum you sent me, which I have used with very great success and credit in the cholic, gout, *&c.* and more particularly in those grievous torments of the belly and stomach proceeding from the scurvy, to all which it hath given present ease, by causing great and sudden sweating. I never observed the utmost dose of it to give sleep, but only a pleasing drowsiness and inclination to rest, which usually ceased with their sweating. As soon as this glass is spent, I shall earnestly desire another from you, and I will tender you a particular account of both together. In the mean time I beg your pardon for giving you this diversion, and haste to remain

your most obliged, and
most humble servant,
RICH. LOWER.

Most Honoured SIR, *June* 24, 1664.

SINCE you were pleased so favourably to receive my last long letter, I have ventured once more to send you another concerning some farther observations in the way of our employment.

THERE happened the last winter a great rot (as they call it) or disease in sheep, so that they being very cheap, I had frequent opportunity of enquiring into them, and into the cause of their general disease: most of them I have observed to have dropsies in their bellies, others in their breast also. I took out of several of their bellies four or five quarts (more or less) of reddish water, even just such as there is in men, that die of dropsies; and after the water was taken out, all the vessels appeared very clear and plain, especially the lymphatic vessels, which were every where more large and turgid with clear water, than ever I saw in any large greyhound or mastiff; so that *Bartholinus*'s conjecture cannot be true, that dropsies come from the breaking of the lymphatic vessels within the cavity of the abdomen, (but rather it seems to come immediately out of the ends of the arteries, and that because it is always of a thin bloody colour.) These lymphatic vessels I found in the same manner large and turgid in six or seven several sheep, who had the like quantities of water in their bellies, when I killed them.

BUT the great and constant disease I always discovered was in their livers, and that but only in one part of the liver, *viz.* in the vessels of the porus biliarius, all whose vessels and branches were always more or less full of broad live worms like little plaices, with a kind of dark rotten sanies, in which they lay: in some livers they were so numerous, that they swelled the branches of the porus biliarius, and made it stretch into several abscesses or cells in which they lodged; besides the vessels of the porus biliarius, the bladder of gall was most commonly full of the same; and the ductus communis all along into the very entrance into the duodenum, and many times I found them travelled as far as the small guts. In these places and vessels I constantly found them in all sheep, and no where else, for the vessels of the vena porta, and the vena cava in the liver, had not the least appearance of any worm, or any sanious or discoloured matter in them. In the next place I tried how to kill them, which I tried by pouring several liquors on them, as spirit of urine, aqua vitæ, spirit of sal armoniac, *&c.* all which did make them stir a little more than ordinary, but without much more inconvenience. Then I tried spirit of salt, and the least drop

of

of that did not only kill them ſtark dead without any further motion, but ſhrinked them up preſently, and quite changed their colour from dark to white; and did likewiſe precipitate that dark kind of ſanies, in which they lay, into a white ſlime, ſo that the worms looked as if they had been pickled a month. This I repeated in ſeveral ſheep with the ſame event, which called to mind the remedy, that I have often ſeen uſed in our country with very ſtrange ſucceſs, which was at ſpring and fall of the year, when the dew is counted moſt dangerous, to drench thoſe ſheep, which they perceived to grow faint and ſickly, with ſix or ſeven ſpoonfuls in a morning faſting, (they being kept from meat all night on purpoſe) of very ſtrong brine, and ſtale urine with ſoot ſteeped in it; and this courſe of phyſic they continued eight or ten days, or till they perceived them to eat their meat heartily, and to keep company again with their fellows; and if they were taken in time, there ſeldom died any ſheep in a whole flock. The other remedy uſed by people, that lived nearer the ſea, was to turn their ſheep to feed in the ſea-marſhes after the tide was gone out, and there to continue them between every tide for a fortnight, and then to take them home, where they remained not only healthy, but moſt commonly grew very fat; yet I enquired of our butchers, who converſe with the people in this country, and they never heard any ſuch thing uſed in this country.

THOSE ſheep, whoſe lungs were full of bladders of water, I could never find any worms in thoſe bladders, nor any where elſe, but in thoſe veſſels of the liver.

IN all theſe ſheep I found the vaſa lactea in the meſentery filled with water, ſo that they looked like lymphatic veſſels; and I ſuppoſe, that it is only in carnivorous creatures, that the chyle is white, and thence we may give that denomination to thoſe veſſels in ſuch like creatures, which colour I ſuppoſe is not found in thoſe animals, that feed only on graſs and water.

OR what I ſuſpect alſo, that the venæ lacteæ may have ſome little veſſels diſſeminated in the guts (beſides thoſe, that terminate in the guts to receive the chyle) to ſerve and ſupply the office of lymphæducts, which is as neceſſary to be done in the guts as any where elſe in the body, for there are as many veſſels of blood there, as any where elſe in the body; and there may be as great reaſon, that the chyle be diluted with that thin liquor in thoſe little veſſels, as well as in the commune receptaculum, thoſe ſmaller veſſels being more likely to be obſtructed than the vaſa thoracica; and yet I do not think the only uſe of the lympha in its general conflux from all parts of the body to the common receptacle, is only to dilute the chyle for its eaſier paſſage, but chiefly to prepare it for a better mixture with the parts of the blood: for, as *Stenon* obſerves, it is ſuch a kind of liquor, that it will readily incorporate with any other liquor or body, that we take. Since in a dog, which I fed, but was forced to hang an hour or two ſooner than I was reſolved, I found the venæ lacteæ of the upper half of the meſentery full of chyle, and the other venæ lacteæ of the lower half to contain a clear water, which I ſuppoſe was the thinner and potulent part of his entertainment, which had been expreſſed out of the ſtomach firſt.

IN the ſame dog I found two very large lymphatic veſſels coming from one of the kidnies, and ending in the commune receptaculum. I confeſs I was in hope, at firſt ſight of them, that they had been veſſels, which come from the commune receptaculum, and ended in the cavity of the pelvis of the kidney, that thereby an account might be given of the ſudden and large quantity of water, made after drinking mornings draughts; but I was deceived.

BESIDES in that and in ſeveral other dogs, I have ſeen, and can ſhew at any time, ſeveral venæ lacteæ coming out of the duodenum juſt below the pilorus, and climbing

ing over the pancreas, and thence tending to and terminating in the commune receptaculum, but not one coming out of the pancreas, or ending in it.

In the ſame dog I took a ſpoonful of chyle out of the common receptacle, and poured into it ſome of the gall of the dog; and they preſently mixed together as ſoon and as well as water would with urine; ſo that I believe they are as much miſtaken, who affirm, that the gall will not mix with the chyle in the guts, as they are, who ſay the gall doth not come into the guts, till the chyle be all gone by.

In another dog ſince I tried an experiment for Dr. *Willis*, to ſee whether any chyle doth go into the meſeraic veins, as well as the venæ lacteæ (out of which the doctor will not be perſuaded.) We fed the dog, and after five hours found all the venæ lacteæ full; whereupon we filled the duodenum and the jejunum with ink, diluted with ſpirit of wine, and ſqueezed the gut between the two ligatures, to ſee if any of the tincture would go into the venæ meſaraicæ, but could not obſerve any; and, which was more obſervable, none of it went into the venæ lacteæ, not ſo much as to give the leaſt colour. So that their mouths ſeem not to be directly open into the guts, for otherwiſe the more the gut was ſtretched, the wider they would have been; whereas if they come between the coats, as the ureters into the bladder, or the ductus communis into the duodenum, the more the guts were diſtended, the more compreſt their entrance would be.

So that this experiment failing, we are trying to feed a dog with ſome tinctured liquor, which probably may retain its tincture in the chyle (there being ſeveral things, which retain their tincture to the very bladder) notwithſtanding all thoſe ſeveral changes and paſſages they do firſt undergo, as the decoction of madder-roots in milk, or broth, or ſome ſuch thing, will render the very urine red, as rhubarb doth ſtain it yellow, when it is given in purging infuſions.

One thing more I have ſeveral times ſeen in great large dogs, *viz.* the eighth pair of nerves accompanied all along the neck with two veſſels of blood in the coat of it, one on one ſide of the nerve, the other on the other ſide. I ſuppoſe one was a vein, and the other an artery, but I wanted a microſcope to perceive the difference; and I verily think, that every nerve, eſpecially the great ones, are nouriſhed with blood, as well as the brain and ſpinal marrow.

Being occaſionally the other day at the butcher's, he ſhewed me a fat lamb, which he had killed, one of whoſe kidnies was as big as a boy's head of two or three years old, and very tranſparent, it being nothing but a congeries of ſeveral thin bladders containing a very clear water. I carried it to Dr. *Willis*, and we took a quart and a half of clear water out of it, beſides what was ſpilt. It had an emulgent vein and artery, but very ſmall and ſhrunk, but no ureter; the taſte of the water was ſalt, and the ſmell ſomewhat urinous: the other kidney was ſound enough.

So much for beaſts; in men, that have died and been opened here in town, I have obſerved theſe following caſes. In a ſenior fellow of a college, who died of a dropſy, we found not above three or four quarts of water in his belly, becauſe it had found vent by ſome ulcers in his legs, to the quantity of a pint every day, for three weeks together; ſo that he found ſo much eaſe and help for the preſent, that he beſpoke a new ſuit of clothes againſt the time he ſhould come abroad, but within a week after he decayed ſuddenly and died. His guts we found all grown together, and compacted like a bunch of grapes, which, I ſuppoſe, happened in the time of his ſickneſs. In his gall we found nothing liquid, but there were ſeven or eight black pills as exactly formed, as if they had been made in an apothecary's ſhop: we bruiſed one of them, and found by the colour, that the choler had been hardened into that form.

form. I would have kept three or four of them to have tried, whether they would have had the operation of common pills; but the gentlemen's curiosity to keep them for a sight, would not allow me any for the experiment. In this same person, though he been as good a fellow all his life as any of the college, yet he had but one kidney, but that was recompensed by its unusual greatness; and being divided into several lobes, it had likewise two emulgent arteries, and two emulgent veins, and two ureters.

THE most observable thing in the course of his sickness was, that within three weeks of his death he could not sleep, unless his head and face were inclined forward; for if he lay on his back, he presently started and awaked in a trembling and kind of convulsions, and said it drowned him; whereupon opening his head, we found much water in it, which, as he lay on his back, fell down upon the medulla oblongata, and all the nerves; but inclining his head forward, it flowed toward the former part of his skull. And I have observed the same in one more, who could not sleep but with his head inclined forward very much; and after he died, the like quantity of water was found about the bottom of his brain.

THIS man had but one vertebral artery, but that was as big as two. The same I saw a little before in another, who died of an apoplexy, neither of which complained of any inconvenience in their head.

ABOUT a fortnight since we opened the head of a scholar, who being a very able and healthy youth, fell suddenly into a lethargy, and within a week's time died of it. His brain we found very firm, all the vessels of blood going to and coming from his head very free and open, not any way obstructed; but the ventricles of the brain were extraordinary full of a very clear water, and all the bottom of the brain and nerves drowned in the same water. The passage of the infundibulum was not obstructed, but in the glandula pituitaria there was a cavity not unlike that of the pelvis in the kidney, which cavity was filled quite up with a clear jelly to the bigness of a bean, so that it probably obstructed the passage of the water out of the ventricles of the brain; whereupon it broke the pia mater at last, which encompasseth and incloseth the brain about the ventricles, and so fell down outside the brain, upon the medulla oblongata and the nerves, whence came those little convulsions first, and after, by the increase of the same water, a lethargy; and this was the most probable reason we could find of his death and disease, there being no other way to convey away the water from the ventricles of the brain, but through that glandule.

AND here, next to the dropsies of the head and belly, I shall give you an account of a dropsy in the breast, which happened the last autumn.

A YOUNG gentleman a fellow of *All-Souls*, having formerly weak lungs, being occasionally at *London*, took a cold, and fell into a cough after it, but spit nothing but a thin frothy water, sometimes a little streaked with blood. Within three weeks he complained of a weight and heaviness in his breast, which did very much oppress him, and made him short-breathed, and about a week after could not lie on his left side; during which time he took electuaries against spitting blood, and pectoral drinks, all to very little purpose; for his shortness of breath increased, and at last was not able to lie well on either side, but was forced to sit up either in his chair or in his bed; for if he lay down to sleep, within half a quarter of an hour he waked in a great oppression, as if his breath had been taken away. I visited him very often, being a friend of long acquaintance, and considering that he had no kind of pleurisy or inflammation of lungs preceding, and consequently could have no empyema, and yet was not able to lie upon his left side without great heaviness and oppression, suspected it might be water in his breast, especially because he spit nothing but thin watery liquor; and asked of him whether he would consent to be opened, it being the only remedy,

remedy, which gladly he would admit if the doctors would consent to it; but it seems they were not of the same opinion, and thought him too weak to endure it if it were so, alledging the common ill success of such operations. So that he continued on his former course of physic about three weeks longer, all the while complaining for want of sleep, and that he could not draw his breath, though he endeavoured with all his force, which was attributed to the weakness and soreness of his lungs, which they thought ulcerated. During the latter end of his life he complained very much of cold, so that though he sat by a constant great fire in a close covered frame of wood, yet he could not get any heat. All this while he was most perfectly in his senses, but at last spoke so low, that his words could not well be heard unless one stood near him, which he attributed to his not being able to draw breath.

WHEN he died, instead of impostumes or ulcers in his lungs, we found the right side of the thorax as full of water as ever it could hold: the other side was almost as full, but the lungs were so depressed and contracted by the pressure of the water, that till two quarts were taken out they could not well be seen; so that it was no wonder he could not draw his breath, because his lungs could not be dilated. His lungs were not ulcerated, but only the pipes of the aspera arteria full of thin frothy water, which I suppose had been assumed out of the water in the thorax.

I HAVE seen one since opened, who died of the same disease; in whose breast the lungs were so compressed by the water, that there is room enough for a knife to enter without danger of hurting, if they would consent to be tapped. You need not take notice of this relation when you come to *Oxford*; for when he was opened, it was agreed not to speak any more of it.

AND this disease puts me in mind of another, *viz.* of a young healthy gentleman, Dr. *Willis*'s patient, as I remember, the lady *Littleton*'s son, who coming lately from *Tangier* to *London*, upon his arrival was taken with a great pain in his shoulder, to which one of the *London* doctors applied a plaister (which since the gentleman understood by the apothecary to be *empl. vigon. cum mercur.*) which took away the pain in one night, but the next day he broke a vein, and spit blood in great quantity, and is now in a very sad condition. His lungs were so sound before, that he never remembered that he had so much as a cough.

I OBSERVED lately in a man mentioned in Dr. *Willis*'s book of fevers, who had liked to be starved, because he could not swallow, till he invented a whalebone with a button at the end, to thrust his meat down: the fault it seems is in the lower part of the œsophagus, or in the orifice of his stomach; for he is able to swallow down five or six good morsels (enough I suppose to fill all the œsophagus) but then he can swallow no more, till with his whalebone he hath thrust down all that continued in his throat (as he calls it) into his stomach: the like he doth with drink; for he can take a whole beer-glass at a time, but it stays in his throat, till he forceth it into his stomach with his instrument. This the doctor thought might be caused by some tumor or schirrhus, near the mouth of the stomach, but lately it appeared otherwise; for being a while since in a fever, he could swallow down any thing, as readily as ever he could in his life, and so he continued during that sickness; but as soon as he recovered he lost that faculty again, and is forced to use his whalebone as before.

THERE is one thing more which I have begun to try, but have not had time to finish or duly consider: it is the reason of the different colour of the blood of the veins and arteries; the one being florid and purple red, the other dark and blackish; and therefore, in letting blood, the blood in the dish, after it hath settled, that which is uppermost (I mean in healthy persons) is always florid and finely red, and that under it always dark and black, which the apothecaries and surgeons very gravely call me-

lancholic bad blood; whereas the purple part is the arterious blood newly come into the veins by anaſtomoſis, without any change; the black part is the arterial blood circulated through the habit of the muſcles, where without it loſeth many parts (*viz.* by lymphatic veſſels, *&c.*) before it is reſumed into the veins, and this I have tried to prove by two or three experiments.

FOR I opened an artery in a dog's thigh, and kept a porringer full of the arterial blood a day or two, and it continued to be of the ſame florid purple colour throughout to the bottom of the diſh. I opened preſently after the vein in the other thigh of the ſame dog, and kept it the ſame ſpace, and it remained black, except a little thin ſkin of redder blood on the top, which was of the very ſame colour as the arterious blood of the former diſh; which redder part, that it came out of the artery into the veins by anaſtomoſis, I am apt to believe, becauſe by ſyringing milk into an artery in the thigh or arm of man or beaſt, or into the emulgent artery (and perhaps into all the reſt) the milk will come forcibly and preſently out of the vein belonging to it, mixed with the blood, though not ſo perfectly mixed but ſo as you may diſcern it very plainly; which difference of colour cannot be diſtinguiſhed ſo ſoon in the two bloods, becauſe they are of a nearer colour and mixture; but after ſettlement they ſeparate again, and the arterial part ſwims uppermoſt, becauſe of the difference of its part, and being more ſpirituous and lighter.

AND beſides it is obſerved, that the laſt blood which comes out in letting blood, is always the moſt fine and purpureous, becauſe it was laſt ſupplied out of the arteries, and perhaps not ſpoiled of ſo much of its parts by the lymphæducts; which being ſtopped, as well as the veins, by the ligature, could not receive any more liquor. Now how much the ſeparation of the lympha from the arterial blood, before it is reſumed into the veins, may alter the colour of the venal blood, may be conceived, by drawing off or rectifying any liquor, which always renders that which is left behind more dark and groſs; ſo that the blood in the veins is like the caput mortuum, when the lympha is ſeparated.

AND here having mentioned anaſtomoſis, I cannot but tell you of an experiment or two concerning it.

IN the country, not far off, at a ſheep-ſhearing, a countryman ſtanding by, the ſheep kicked the ſhears out of the ſhearer's hand, and it ſtruck the inſide of his leg, and cut the great artery in his leg, ſo that he loſt about three quarts or more of blood before the ſurgeon (*viz.* old *Day* of *Oxford*) could come. He uſed ſeveral things to ſtop it, but all to no purpoſe; ſo that he laid the wound open, and took up the artery, and made two ligatures, and cut off the artery between them where it was opened, and the fellow came to town about a fortnight after a-foot, though it was nine miles off, and was as well as ever, only complained that that foot, below the wound, was a little colder than the other, and a little benumbed for a day or two after, but ſince was as hot and well as the other.

AND ſince I have tried in ſeveral dogs, and in a man laſt aſſizes, and found an anaſtomoſis between all the arteries in the body, ſo that if one be ſyringed with milk, it will return and come out of all the reſt in the ſame part of that body; and the ſame we tried in the meſentery. We took a little branch of the meſenterical artery, and ſyringed it with milk, and it ran into all the arteries of the meſentery, which was the pleaſanteſt ſight I have lately ſeen in anatomy.

ONE thing more I tried, that the arteria hepatica goes into all parts of the liver; for if it be ſyringed, it will come out of all the lobes of the liver, if you cut off the edge of them. So that Dr. *Gliſſon* was much miſtaken, to affirm the contrary in

his books; but I ſuppoſe he did not uſe ſyringes, without which anatomy is as much deficient, as phyſic would be without laudanum.

I HAD the opportunity lately to make uſe of millepedes. There was a child here in this town (a citizen's daughter) of ſix years of age, troubled exceedingly with ſore eyes, eſpecially one of them, which ſhe would not ſuffer to be touched or opened for eighteen weeks and more, nor could not endure the leaſt light, having a very ſharp fretting rheum in it, which did inflame all the cheek on that ſide on which it fell. She had been touched for the evil, but received no benefit. I only gave her ſmall beer with millipedes bruiſed and infuſed in it, for a fortnight, to drink for her ordinary drink, and one gentle purge before the uſe of them; and ſhe is as well recovered as ever ſhe was in her life; the rheum is all gone; ſhe hath no blemiſh at all in them, only a little ſpeck upon the cornea, which ſince is worn quite off. And this I muſt acknowledge I received from the reading of your book concerning millepedes, for which I am aſhamed I have not returned my thanks ſooner.

DR. *Willis* a while ſince cured a child extraordinarily afflicted with the ſtrangury, only with millipedes in the like manner; ſo that in a ſhort time he could make water without any pain or anguiſh, which formerly he had not done in a great while.

I SENT Mr. *Hooke* a while ſince ſomething concerning the difference and fabric of the ſtomachs of creatures which chew the cud, not knowing whether you were in town. It deſerves your conſideration, as well as any thing in the body of ſuch creatures, eſpecially ſince it ſo nearly relates to the beſt chemical proceſſes in diſtillation. But this I muſt tell you, what I had forgot to mention to him, that that part of the ſtomach, which I called the preſs, which ſqueezes the thin tincture into the next ſtomach, is not ſo hard, nor the ſeveral cakes between its ſeveral coats ſo dry this time of year, when they eat graſs, as in winter, when their food is drier.

DR. *Willis* is ſo taken with it, that he will make a lecture of it the next term, though he hath not been at leiſure yet to ſee them opened. My letters to Mr. *Hooke* will inform you more fully.

BUT, Sir, I am very ſenſible how much I have tired your patience already, aſſuring you that I ſhould not have ventured to have given you ſo great a trouble, but that your accepting of my laſt letter invited me to write this. Therefore pray pardon this long ſcribble, and I ſhall remain,

SIR,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

R. LOWER.

IF you write to me again, you may not direct it to me a ſtudent of *Chriſt Church*, for I have been put out of my place above a year and half ſince, for not being in orders, without which I could not keep my ſtudent's place, unleſs I had got a phyſician's place in the college, there being two allowed, but I had not the favour or friendſhip to obtain either; but I live in a chamber of the college, where, if you are pleaſed to honour me with a letter at any time, I ſhall moſt gladly receive it.

DR. *Willis* will ſend his book of the Diſeaſes of the Head to the preſs this winter, if he be not hindered and forced to defend his laſt. There is not a diſeaſe of the head, which he doth not excellently illuſtrate with very rare obſervations and caſes; ſo that it is pity the world ſhould be any longer deprived of them. When you come down, you may ſet it more forward; but pray take no notice, that you have ſeen any thing of them already, but only by hearſay and report.

3

Moſt

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Chriſt Church, Oxon, June* 8, 1664.

I SHOULD have retured you my thanks ſooner, together with an account how I have employed your laudanum; but that I hoped to have ſeen you before this time, either here or at *London*, and told you ſome other obſervations which lately I have met with; but now I cannot defer it any longer, having promiſed to be in *Cornwall* after the Act, where, if I may ſerve you in any thing, pray let me receive your commands. I have ſome pieces of minerals, which I would have ſent you a-while ſince, but that Mr. *Croſſe* made me believe you were coming down. If I may know, whether they ſhall find you at *London*, I will ſend them by the firſt opportunity; otherwiſe I will leave them with Mr. *Croſſe* for you.

THE caſes in which particularly I tried your laudanum, were, firſt, in one of ſixty years of age, who being cruelly troubled with the gout in his feet, and being impatient of any longer pain, applied repercuſſive plaiſters, which, within half an hour, repelled the humour from his feet into his heart and ſtomach; ſo that he had a very intermittent and trembling pulſe, and continually vomited, with a violent pain at his ſtomach; and when I came to him, I found him very weak and in a cold ſweat. I gave him twelve drops of the laudanum, with one ſcruple of diaſcordium, and a draught of hot poſſet drink, boiled with camomile flowers, after it, and ſo left him, with little hope of ſeeing him again; but when I came two hours after I found him very well, in a great ſweat, and a deſire to reſt; for he had not ſlept three or four nights before, by reaſon of his gout. He told me that his pain went away from his heart and ſtomach within half an hour as ſoon as he began to ſweat; whereupon he continued in a ſlumber and a ſweat four hours longer (being a groſs bodied man) and the next day roſe, being neither troubled with gout or any pain elſe, and ſo he continued a quarter of a year, though his gout formerly continued upon him at leaſt a fortnight together; after which time, by taking cold in his feet, his gout returned upon him again with the ſame violence as before; and, notwithſtanding I had told him the danger of uſing ſuch repelling plaiſters, yet, being overcome with the pain, he uſed the ſame plaiſters again, and preſently after fell into the ſame ſymptoms, but was recovered again by the uſe of the ſame laudanum, beyond the hopes of all his friends, who deſpaired of his life; for as ſoon as he had taken it he fell into a ſweat, and continued therein all night. In this man, as in all others in whom I tried it, I always found it to cauſe ſweat extremely, but not ſleep, but rather a ſlumbering and deſire to reſt.

ON another I had occaſion to try it, who was ſick of a ſcorbutic fever, with a very great burning and heat of his body, without much thirſt or dryneſs in his mouth, ſo that if he could ſweat he hoped to be much better. His doctor had given him three nights following one dram of mithridate in poſſet drink, but without any ſweat after it; but he being ſent for out of town, the man deſired me to come to him, and I preſcribed him a clyſter, and afterwards at night gave him fourteen drops of the laudanum, with half a dram of diaſcordium, with a draught of hot poſſet drink after it; and within a quarter of an hour he fell into a very great ſweat, and ſo continued till eight the next morning, not being much weakened by it: he ſlept pretty well all the while, ſo that he told me his ſweat was not at all troubleſome to him. After he was out of his ſweat he found his body very light and cool, his water became very good, and, whereas he had not ſlept in two or three nights before, but continually toſſed and tumbled, he reſted very well that night by fits, and found himſelf wonderfully eaſed and refreſhed, as he told me; and within two days after recovered very well; for which I had more thanks from the patient than from the doctor.

A LITTLE before this time, I had an opportunity to try it in a gentlewoman very much weakened and tormented with thoſe pains of the ſcurvy in her belly, and at the pit of her ſtomach. She had took phyſic two years together from a country phyſician for fits of the mother, he having perſuaded her that that was her grief: whereupon I took away the bag of caſtor and aſſa fœtida from her neck, which ſhe confeſſed did very much offend her, and made her much fainter; and the firſt night I gave her twelve drops of the laudanum in ſome conſerve of roſes, and ſhe ſlumbered all the night, and felt no pain at all, and in the morning awaked in a great ſweat: whereupon I left ſo much laudanum, mixed with conſerve of roſes, (for ſhe lived in the country) as ſhould ſerve her four nights more, and preſcribed her an electuary for the ſcurvy, to be taken twice a day, drinking after ſome wormwood wine, with ten drops of elix. proprietat. in each draught; and with theſe only things ſhe recovered ſo well in a fortnight's time, that ſhe told me, half a year after, when I ſaw her again, that ſhe was never better when ſhe was a maid of twelve years old, though for the two laſt years ſhe never enjoyed one day without much pain and torment; ſo that ſhe ſaid ſhe did commend my phyſic in all companies and places where ſhe came.

AND ſince I have uſed it in the ſame pains of the ſtomach and belly with the ſame ſucceſs.

ANOTHER time I tried it in a gentleman who had been troubled with a great flux, and a feveriſh diſtemper together, five or ſix days, whereby he was very much weakened. I gave him ten drops in conſerve of red roſes, which made him ſweat very well in the night, and very much abated his flame; but upon the ceaſing of his flux he grew more feveriſh, ſo that I gave him another doſe the next night in the ſame conſerve; and it cauſed ſweat more largely, ſo that his flux quite ceaſed, together with his fever.

I HAVE uſed it in continual fevers with very good ſucceſs, by giving twelve drops in ſome temperate cordial, which always gave eaſe, by cauſing reſt and ſweats, though the patients were ever ſo hot and unquiet before.

I TRIED it once in a young country-fellow that was quite raving mad, without any fever or ſickneſs preceding, whom nothing could make ſleep. I gave ſixteen drops at a time, once a day, and at the ſame time uſed other remedies, *viz.* I let him blood at three or four ſeveral times, forty or fifty ounces of blood, and vomited him with ſtibium three or four times, and as often purged him with reſin of ſcammony and extract of hellebore, and all this in a fortnight, giving him nothing all this while but plain water-gruel, and raw apples as many as he would eat; and for his drink only whey or fair water boiled with apples, and a little ſal. prunel. diſſolved in it: beſides, I made him an iſſue in his arm, and another on the top of his head, where it is preſcribed; and with theſe things he recovered perfectly well within a fortnight, and continues as well as ever he was in his life. The very ſame I tried once ſince on another, with the ſame ſucceſs; but the laudanum did not make them ſweat as it did all others; becauſe continually they threw off their clothes, and lay naked.

AND here by the way I muſt acquaint you with another accident concerning the ſame diſeaſe. Here was a young gentleman, who formerly being very far in a conſumption, had ſeveral iſſues made, to the number of nine, which, together with the uſe of aſſes milk, reſtored him pretty well; but going to *London* lately, met with ſome company who perſuaded him to drink ſack with them according to their own rate; ſo that in a ſhort time he was drunk, and that night was very ſick and feveriſh; ſo that all his iſſues were dried up, and the next day (though his feveriſh diſtemper was gone) yet he continued to talk as if he were yet drunk, which condition he remained in two or three days, till at laſt he became perfectly mad, and was thereupon brought down to *Oxford*, tied faſt in a coach, and here he remained in the ſame caſe

about

about a week, and then he died; and notwithſtanding all things poſſible uſed, yet they could not make any of his iſſues to run again.

BESIDES the caſes above-mentioned, I have uſed the laudanum very proſperouſly in pleuriſies, cholics, hyſterical fits and catarrhs, and once or twice in an eriſipelas; all which it wonderfully helped by large ſweats; ſo that if I had a quart of it, I ſhould not be able to keep it long; for thoſe that have had the experience of it in one diſeaſe, think it will cure all. And now I am going into the country, (pray pardon my boldneſs to requeſt ſo great a favour) if I might have another little bottle, I ſhould think myſelf more ſecure in my journey, and hope to be the better welcome where I go.

BUT I ſhall not trouble you any farther with the commendations of it, but only tell you in general, that I think it is the only medicine in the world, that can properly be called a ſudorific; for it never fails to do it more or leſs, according as the body is more thin or groſs; and, which is the great conveniency of it, it cauſeth reſt and ſlumbering together, ſo that ſweating cannot be ſo troubleſome as otherwiſe it would be.

AND here I ſhould put an end to your trouble, but that I write to you but ſeldom, and cannot but tell you (at this opportunity) of an experiment or two I have lately ſeen or made.

THE one is of an ancient gentlewoman, Dr. *Willis*'s patient, which after a fever for two years ſince is troubled with a defect of ſight every other day; for one day (be it never ſo ſerene and clear) ſhe cannot ſee at all, ſave only a glimering light; the next day (be it ever ſo rainy, ſoutherly and dull weather) ſhe can ſee very well, and read the ſmalleſt print: the ſame day ſhe cannot ſee, ſhe is indiſpoſed in body and dull; the next day very clear and well, be it what weather ſoever; ſo that the doctor is curing her almoſt as one of an intermittent fever: what the ſucceſs is you ſhall know hereafter.

THE other experiment is this: having occaſion to uſe ſome powder of vipers, I cut off their heads, and after touching one of the great teeth in the upper jaw (there being three on each ſide, contained in one ſkin as it were in a ſheath) which you know they can erect and contract at pleaſure; every time the viper ſhot forth theſe teeth, there appeared upon the middle of it a little drop of liquor, partly yellow and green mixed, but very clear, not exceeding the head of a pin, juſt as it is on the ſting of a bee when ſhe thruſts it out; and this liquor continually appeared at the end of the tooth, every time I took up the tooth: whereupon, finding the gall afterwards of the ſame colour (though it looks a little more green while it is contained in the bladder) I preſerved three of the galls to try them on a dog, which within three days I did; and having opened one of the dog's jugular veins, and made a ligature above the orifice, I dropped in two galls into the vein, and preſently compreſt the vein downwards towards his heart, that the galls might not run back again out of the orifice; but before I could drop the third gall into it the dog cried out, and ſprawled on the table, and gaped in the greateſt agony imaginable; and beſides was in greater convulſions than a puppy dog is of nine days old, when the eight pair of nerves are tied in the neck; ſo that we thought the dog was almoſt dead, and layed him down on the ground, where he lay ſprawling for life; but within a quarter of an hour he recovered pretty well, ſo as to ſtand, and ſince is well again and living. I have not yet tried, whether wounding a dog's ſkin, and dropping a drop of the gall into it, will kill him as if he were bit, as I believe it will; for I verily think the gall to be the ſame liquor with that which drops from the tooth, though I did not try to find the ductus from the one to the other, which *Severinus* mentions.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER experiment, which I intend to make as ſoon as I can get two dogs of equal bigneſs, is this; to let both bleed into one another at the ſame time, from the artery of one into the other's vein, *& ſic vice verſâ*, for an hour's time, till they have wholly changed their blood: and then to make the experiment ſurer, whether one dog can live with another's blood, I intend to take away as much blood from one dog, until he be quite faint and cannot ſtand, and then let the other dog's blood run into him, to ſupply the loſs, and ſee whether immediately he recovers his ſtrength again, and will live after it. And if this ſucceed, it may be tried on creatures of ſeveral bloods, as on a ſheep and a maſtiff; but howſoever, if the blood of two ſeveral creatures cannot agree together, yet perhaps that of a ſheep may agree with a man's blood, and incorporate together, it being almoſt of the ſame taſte and nature, and not ſo rank as that of unclean creatures, nor altogether ſo fibrous as that of oxen: and if ſo, it may be improved in ſeveral caſes, *viz.* in great loſſes and evacuations of blood, to have it ſupplied from a ſheep, which may be dieted before, to make his blood more agreeable.

A LITTLE while ſince I ſyringed in about a quart of warm milk into a great dog (having firſt taken ſome blood from him to make room for the milk;) and though at firſt he ſeemed not much altered, but looked upon it very unconcernedly while it was doing, yet within a quarter of an hour he began to groan exceedingly, and draw his breath with great difficulty, and ſeemed to be very much oppreſſed at heart, and ſtruggled very much; and, which was very remarkable, he drivelled at the mouth a kind of white liquor, as if he had been lapping milk. When we perceived him in this agony, we removed him from the table; but he was not able to ſtand, nor raiſe his body, but lay drivelling and groaning, and almoſt preſently died; and as ſoon as we opened him, we found all the vena cava, the ventricles of his heart, and the great artery, full of blood mixed with milk, as if both had been curdled together, for it was very faſtly mixed, ſo that it could not eaſily be ſeparated.

THERE are ſeveral other ſmall experiments in anatomy which we have lately made, which at ſome other time I ſhould acquaint you with, if I were ſure of your pardon for giving you ſo great a trouble at preſent.

SIR, I remain

your moſt obliged ſervant,

RICH. LOWER.

I WOULD gladly ſend thoſe minerals to you, that I may have your opinion of them, and farther directions, before I begin my journey. What ſome of them are, I know not; but there is a piece or two of copper ore, as rich, I believe, as any in the world; and the gentleman, who ſent it me, hath a whole hill of the ſame metal, but is loth to have it known; for it being a royal mine, they may break up his land, and allow him no advantage for it: but if he might be aſſured that he ſhould be paid for his ground, I believe not only he, but ſeveral others, might do the king as much good, as if they had diſcovered another iſland in *America*.

Honoured SIR, *Chriſt Church, Oxon, July* 18, 1664.

BEING ſtayed in town longer than I expected, I had the happineſs to receive your letter laſt night, and I aſſure you I ſhall make it my buſineſs to ſatisfy you in thoſe things you mention, both as to ſufficient quantities and information concerning them, or any other ſtrange mineral I can get. I forgot in my laſt to mention two or three very

very obſervable things, which you might have the opportunity to enquire of more fully when you come down to *Oxford*.

ONE is of Dr. *Priaux*, a doctor of divinity, and prebend of *Saliſbury*, who being a while ſince here in town upon another occaſion, enquired of Dr. *Willis* concerning a ſtrange obſervation he had made of himſelf, *viz.* that his ſweat did always ſtain his ſhirt as blue as any thing could be dyed of that colour; and it is only the ſweat of his back, and no part elſe of his body, that hath the ſame effect. Dr. *Willis* told me, he ſaw the experiment of it ſeveral times here in town; and to be more certain, he made him put on a new ſhirt never worn before, and the next morning it was ſtained as blue, as if it had beed dyed with indico, ſo that it could not be waſhed out. The doctor is an ancient man, yet very healthy, and of as ruddy and lively complexion as any man of thirty years.

THE other is of a lad here in town, of fourteen or fifteen years old, the ſon of one *Franklin* a taylor, living over againſt *New-Inn Hall* in *Oxford*; who being taken with a ſuppreſſion of urine for a day or two, and in great pain, there met ſome of the neighbours in conſultation, amongſt whom an old woman gave her judgment, that it proceeded only from wind (as they think moſt diſeaſes do) and adviſed to give him a pipe of tobacco, which ſhe commended upon her experience to be very good againſt wind. Whereupon the boy began to take the pipe, but before a quarter of it had been taken he called for a chamber pot, and made a great quantity of water, and was in perfect eaſe (but it ſeems the tobacco wrought otherwiſe beſides that by urine, it being the firſt pipe he ever took.) But about twelve hours after he was in pain again, and could not make water without uſing the ſame means; and ever ſince for theſe two years he continues in the ſame condition, only with this difference, that now he hath no pain though his urine be ſuppreſſed a whole day and night, ſo that his parents are careful to make him take tobacco every morning, mid-day, and at night; whereas, being not provoked by any pain or oppreſſion, he would otherwiſe forget, not knowing the danger of its long retention, or elſe not liking the taſte of tobacco.

THE other relation was given me by a maſter of arts, and fellow of *Magdalen* college, one Mr. *Mew*, a very honeſt and underſtanding perſon, who having travelled in the winter, about *Chriſtmas*, about forty miles in one day with his brother, and being to riſe early in the morning, he waked about five of the clock, and at firſt riſing in his bed, he was aſtoniſhed to ſee the bed within the curtains very light, as if there had been a candle in the room; there being a flame upon the coverlid as big as his hand, like the flame of burning aqua vitæ; which after he had contemplated a while, he put his hand to touch it, and the flame came from the bed to his hand, and there continued in the ſame faſhion without any heat. He ſtirred it with a finger of his other hand to and fro upon the palm of that hand which took it up, until by degrees it leſſened and vaniſhed; and after his hand was very much drier than the other (for they were both in a ſweat when they waked) he thinks, if he had not took it from the bed, the flame would have laſted much longer.

I SUPPOSE, if the boy before-mentioned had taken fit remedies for his diſtemper before his bladder had been weakened by uſing only tobacco at ſet times, he might eaſily have been reſtored at firſt; but it is harder to perſuade mean people to take phyſic, than it is to cure their diſeaſes.

I HAVE received your laudanum, and return you my moſt hearty thanks for ſo great a favour; as ſoon as I have uſed it, I ſhall give you a farther account of it. In the mean time I take leave to reſt, Sir,

your moſt obliged, and moſt humble ſervant,

RICH. LOWER.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Treemore*, near *Bodmin*, in *Cornwall*, *Sept.* 3, 66.

YOURS of the 26th of *June*, after it had lain at Mr. *Croſſe*'s about three months, was occaſionally found and ſent to me in the country by a friend, together with another from Mr. *Mayer*, with a little box of braſs pipes; whereby I underſtand, that the account of bleeding one dog into another, which I ſent you before I left *Oxford*, had miſcarriedd, and that Dr. *Wallis* had not given you a full information how I performed it, for I tried it before him and ſeveral others with very good ſucceſs, and that ſeveral times, but not by that way of conveying the blood from one dog's jugular vein to the other by pipes, as we endeavoured to try, when you were there, and ſince often, but found it altogether impoſſible, becauſe the blood was apt to congeal in thoſe pipes, and ſo ſtop its own paſſage: but the way I did effect it ſince, was by bleeding from one dog's carotidal artery into the other dog's jugular vein, which by reaſon of the ſwift motion of the blood out of the artery will keep open its own paſſage. The exact way of doing it is this.

FIRST take up the carotidal artery, and ſeparate it from the nerve of the eighth pair, and lay it bare above an inch: then make a ſtrong ligature on the upper part of the artery not to be untied again; but an inch below, *viz.* toward the heart, make another ligature of a running knot, which may be looſened or faſtened, as there ſhall be occaſion, having made theſe two knots draw two threads under the artery, between the two ligatures, and then open the artery, and put in a quill, and tie the artery upon the quill very faſt by thoſe two threads, and ſtop the quill with a ſtick.

AFTER this make bare the jugular vein in the other dog, about an inch and half long, and at each end make a ligature with a running knot, and in the ſpace betwixt the two running knots, draw under the vein two threads more: then make an inciſion in the vein, and put into it two quills, one into the deſcendent part of the vein to receive the blood from the other dog, and carry it to the heart; and the other quill put into the upper part of the jugular vein, which comes from the head, (out of which the dog's own blood muſt run into diſhes.) Theſe two quills being put in and tied faſt, ſtop them with a ſtick, till there be occaſion to open them.

ALL things being thus prepared, tie the dogs on their ſide toward one another ſo conveniently, that the quills may go into each other (for the dogs necks cannot be brought ſo near, but that you muſt put two or three ſeveral quills more into the firſt two to convey the blood from one to another.) After that unſtop the quill going down into the dog's jugular vein, and the other quill coming out of the other dog's artery, and by the help of two or three other quills put into each other, according as there ſhall be occaſion, put them into one another; then ſlip the running knots, and immediately the blood runs through the quills, as through an artery, very impetuouſly; and immediately as the blood runs into the dog, unſtop the other quill coming out of the upper part of his jugular vein (a ligature being firſt made about his neck, or elſe his other jugular vein being compreſſed by one's finger) and let his own blood run out at the ſame time into diſhes, (yet not conſtantly, but according as you perceive him to bear it) till the other dog begin to cry and faint, and fall into convulſions, and at laſt die by his ſide.

THEN take out both the quills out of the dog's jugular vein, and tie the running knots faſt, and cut the vein aſunder; which you may do without any harm to the dog, one jugular vein being ſufficient to convey all the blood from the head and upper parts, by reaſon of a large anaſtomoſis, whereby both the jugular veins meet about the larynx: this done, ſew up the ſkin, and diſmiſs him, and the dog will leap from the table, and ſhake himſelf, and run away, as if nothing ailed him. And this I have tried ſeveral times before ſeveral in the univerſity, but never yet upon

more than one dog at a time, for want of time and convenient ſupplies of ſeveral dogs at once: but when I return (which I hope may be this autumn) I doubt not but to give you a fuller account, not only by bleeding ſeveral dogs into one, but ſeveral other creatures into one another, as you did propoſe to me before you left *Oxford*, which will be very eaſy to perform, and will afford many pleaſant, and perhaps not unuſeful experiments.

BUT becauſe there are many circumſtances neceſſary to be obſerved on the performing this experiment, and that you may better direct any one to do it, without any danger of killing the dog, that is to receive the other's blood, I will mention two or three; firſt, that you faſten the dogs at ſuch a convenient diſtance, that the vein nor artery be not ſtretched; for then being contracted, they will not admit or convey ſo much blood: 2. That you conſtantly obſerve the pulſe beyond the quill in the dog's jugular vein (which it acquires from the impulſe of the arterious blood) for if it fails, then it is a ſign the quill is ſtopped by ſome congealed blood, ſo that you muſt draw out the arterial quill from the other, and with a probe open the paſſage again in both of them, ſo that the blood may have its free courſe again. For this muſt be expected, when the dog, that bleeds into the other, hath loſt much blood, his heart will beat very faintly, and then the impulſe of blood being weaker, it will be apt to congeal the ſooner, ſo that at the latter end of the work, you muſt draw out the quill often, and clear the paſſage, if the dog be faint-hearted, as many are, though ſome ſtout fierce dogs will bleed freely and uninterruptedly till they are convulſed and die: but to prevent this trouble, and to make the experiment certain, you muſt bleed a great dog into a little, or a maſtiff into a cur, as I once tried, and the little dog bled out at leaſt double the quantity of his own blood, and left the maſtiff dead upon the table; and after he was untied, he ran away, and ſhaked himſelf, as if he had been only thrown into the water: or elſe you may get three or four ſeveral dogs prepared in the ſame manner; and when one begins to fail, and leave off bleeding, adminiſter another, and I am confident one dog will receive all their blood (and perhaps more) as long as it runs freely, till they are left almoſt dead by turns, provided that you let out the blood proportionably as you let it go into the dog that is to live.

3. I SUPPOSE the dog, that is to bleed out into diſhes, will endure it the better, if the dogs, that are to be adminiſtered to ſupply his blood, be of near equal age, and fed alike the day before, that both their bloods may be of a near ſtrength and temper. There are many things, which I have obſerved upon bleeding dogs to death, which I have ſeen ſince your departure from *Oxford*, of which I ſhall give you a relation in my next. In the mean time, ſince you were pleaſed to mention it to that honourable Society, with a promiſe to give them an account of this experiment, I could not but take the firſt opportunity to clear you from that obligation, and the more willingly, that I might expreſs myſelf grateful for all thoſe kind remembrances you have of me; and that I am,

Honoured Sir,
your moſt obliged
and moſt humble ſervant,
R. LOWER.

Letters from Mr. ROBERT HOOKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Ever Honoured Sir, *London, June* 5, 1663.

I HAVE put up and ſent the things you gave order for, together with four pair of gloves Mr. *Whit.* ſpoke for; and ſhould have come away myſelf, but that having received a particular favour from the Society, and alſo an extraordinary injunction

to ſee the condenſing engine in a little order againſt the next *Wedneſday*, I did hope you would be pleaſed to diſpenſe with my abſence from attending on you for two or three days longer, till the next *Wedneſday* be paſt, and that becauſe thoſe extraordinary days being holidays, you may perhaps have other avocations, eſpecially being but newly come thither. For I remember you were pleaſed to ſay, that you thought it would be a week before the ceremony of viſits would ſuffer you to ſettle about any buſineſs, and ſo ſhould have little uſe of me till then; and if your occaſions would permit a diſpenſation for my ſtay here any longer time, I ſhould endeavour to improve the time the beſt way I am able to ſerve you. But, Sir, I make it no further my deſire, than the convenience of your affairs permit, having wholly reſigned myſelf to your diſpoſal. Nor ſhould I have preſumed to have treſpaſſed your commands thus far, had I not thought, that the Society might have taken it a little amiſs, if, at the very next meeting, after ſo great an honour done me, I ſhould be abſent. There was nothing of experiment, but only a trial of the condenſing engine, which only held enough to ſhew us, that it would not hold long enough with that kind of cement we uſed; for after the air was condenſed into about half its dimenſions, it forced its way through the cement of the covers, though laid very thick in the joints. But I think that inconvenience will be eaſily remedied againſt the next day. Dr. *Bates*, I underſtand, was choſen by the council a member of the Society, who thereupon returned a great compliment, together with a preſent of ten pounds in new coined ſilver. There happened an excellent good diſcourſe about petrefaction; upon which occaſion ſeveral inſtances were given about the growing of ſtones: ſome, that were included in glaſs viols; others, that lay upon the paſture ground; others, that lay in gravel walks; which was known by putting a ſtone in at the mouth of a glaſs viol, through which, after a little time, it would by no means paſs. Next, the ſtory of a field's being filled with ſtones every third year, was confirmed by ſome inſtances. And that the ſtones in gravel walks grow greater, had been often proved by ſifting thoſe walks over again, which had formerly paſſed all through the ſieve, and finding abundance of ſtones too big to paſs through the ſecond time. Upon this, mention was made of the production of ſtones or lapidious concretions in the bodies of animals, and abundance of very ſtrange inſtances were alledged of the finding of ſtones in ſeveral parts of a man's body, as in the joints of his fingers and toes, and of other parts of his body; and it was generally agreed to by all, that thoſe people, that drink petrefying waters, are extremely ſubject to the ſtone. A place was mentioned in *Oxfordſhire*, where there is ſuch a water, and the people round about are extremely plagued with that diſeaſe. Mr. *Pell* and ſome others mentioned to have read ſomewhere an obſervation, that there were more ſuch concretions taken from one man, than the weight of his whole body amounted to.

MR. *Palmer* related a ſtory of a *French* phyſician (whoſe name I have forgot) who landing ſick at *Dover*, and taking a gliſter, voided an incredible number of ſmall and great cockle-ſhells. The matter of fact was confirmed by very many of the Society, who had either had very good relation of it, or ſeen ſome of the ſhells. Dr. *Charlton* added, that they had lain a good while upon ſea, and fed upon nothing but cheeſe (made of the milk of goats, which fed upon the mountains of *Bononia*, which are very full of ſuch ſhells) and brandy. Monſieur *Monconis* related a ſtory of a woman in *France*, who for a long time together every month voided the perfect bones of children *inſtar menſtruarum purgationum*, and has promiſed to ſend over ſome of thoſe bones. Another very ſtrange ſtory he related of a woman, who, being opened, was found to have a child petrified in a certain bag or appendix diſtinct from the uterus. Upon this ſeveral inſtances were added by many of the Society, about conceptions

ceptions *extra uterum*. Dr. *Clark* told of a woman in *London*, who had carried a child eighteen years in her belly, and that ſhe had in the mean ſpace ſeveral children, one whereof he ſaid was eleven years old, when, by an impoſthume on the ſide of her belly, all the bones of the child came from thence. There were ſeveral of the Society, who had ſeen the bones, and talked with the woman, and Dr. *Clark* named the phyſician, who extracted thoſe bones. Colonel *Long* added, that a very noble lady, now alive, had told him, that a child remaining in her a good while, ſhe knew not how, ſhe was afterwards delivered of it *per ſedem*, and added, that he had ſeen the bones. Dr. *Charlton* upon this mentioned *Denſingius*'s little book about a petrified child found in the abdomen. To which Dr. *Clark* added, that the book was lately reprinted with the opinion of ſeveral learned men, moſt of which judge it a fiction, from ſeveral contradictions it contains. Dr. *Clark* likewiſe told a very odd ſtory, which the duke of *Albemarle* told him, of one of his officers, who was grievouſly tormented with the ſtone in his kidnies, of which he was perfectly cured merely by chewing tobacco; and that the duke commends it to the world, as an excellent remedy for moſt kind of diſeaſes. Sir *Robert Moray* brought in a petition, that was preſented to his majeſty, wherein the petitioners deſired a patent for an invention of meliorating all kinds of grounds, ſo as to make the worſt to bear any kind of grain; and for another of making all kinds of fruits and flowers better, and the bearing plants more fruitful. Much was argued for and againſt the ſteeping of corn, and ſeveral ways were mentioned, by which it had been done, and with what ſucceſſes. It was generally concluded to preſerve corn from ſmut; ſeveral other ways were hinted of preſerving corn from ſmut. Mr. *Henſhaw* mentioned a way of ſhaking off the mildew from the ears of corn, by a rope drawn over the tops of them by two men at either end of it; which mildew was found to make the corn hide-bound. Mr. *Long* told of a ſtrange increaſe, that was received from corn ſown in bad ground with the huſks on. Mr. *Parker* affirmed, that there was a gentleman in *Suſſex*, that had a way of chuſing the ears of corn, whilſt in the blow, for his ſeed wheat, which is ſo excellent, that he would be bound to forfeit a great matter, if any of his ſeed corn yield ſmut, though ſown in the ſame ground ſeveral years. Mr. *Long* related the improving of many thouſands of acres of land, from ſix-pence an acre to fifty ſhillings, by means of conveying water to overflow it. The drying and ſingeing, and ripening of corn was mentioned, as likewiſe the way of preſerving corn in the huſk for very many years. Several other obſervable particulars were mentioned. But they would be too long to trouble you with, you having already received too much by this long ſcribble from,

Honoured Sir,

your honour's moſt affectionate,

moſt faithful and moſt humble ſervant,

RO. HOOKE.

I HAVE here incloſed a letter I received from the amanuenſis of the Society.

DR. *Kuffler*'s wife has been here to enquire of me about an engine for diſtilling water, of which I told her I would acquaint you, when I next wrote.

SIR, my lord *Br.* and Sir *R. M.* preſent their humble ſervice to you. And Sir *R. M.* ſays, he has a quarrel with you, becauſe you would not let him ſee you, before your leaving the town.

I HAVE not been able to meet with Dr. *Sydenham* all this morning, and ſo cannot ſend any of the ſage, for there was none left at my lady's houſe.

Right Honourable, [About *July* 1663.]

I DID expect and hope, that you would have been in *London* before this; nor are your friends at *Gresham* college less solicitous after your return; I being asked by every one almost, when you would be here. There was but little done this last *Wednesday*, because of some papers which were read, which took up almost all the time. The one was sent in from Sir *Paul Neile*, being an account of his way of making, ordering and bottling of cyder, and his judgment of the cause of the fermentation of it, *&c.* wherein indeed were very many new observables, though several of them were contradicted by Mr. *Waller* and some others, Sir *P.* being very much against the fermenting of cyder very much; and Mr. *Waller* and some others of the contrary opinion. There was likewise read a relation sent from the coast of *Coromandell* in the *East-Indies*, by a person of credit, and one, who had lived a governor there above eleven years. The sum was this, that for three or four months, in the summer time, the wind did all day, from eight in the morning to four in the afternoon, blow so extremely hot from the land, that the people are hardly able to endure it, but are fain to sit in tubs of cold water, up to the neck, to preserve themselves from being stifled; that every night the wind blows directly contrary, namely, from the sea, with as great an excess of cold. But this is not so strange, because it happens in several other parts of the world; but what he added further is sufficiently strange to an *European*, *viz.* that their way to preserve their drink cold in this extremity of heat, was to put it up in their earthen vessels (what form they are of I know not) and expose the bottle, hung by a stake, or the branch of a tree, to the scorching sun and suffocating winds; for by that means they find the contained liquor, at four in the afternoon, excessively cold, and extremely pleasant and refreshing; nor would the relator himself, nor any that he had heard of, venture to give a reason for it. We made a trial of Monsieur *Zulichem*'s experiment, where indeed it succeeded so far, that with the pumping, that was used about it, the water would not descend, though I am very confident, if the pump had been longer plied, the event would have been much otherwise; and we shall this next week try with a pipe of five or six feet long, whether it will remain suspended or not. We have lately likewise tried two other experiments: the one was, there were two bolt-heads full of water inverted into restagnating water, out of which, when the air was extracted, there remained in each a small bubble at the top: into the place of one of the bubbles of extracted air as much common air was put, and then both of them set aside and observed. The event was, that both the bubbles vanished into the water, but that of the common air remained longest. Since that, we exhausted the air out of one of those bolt-heads, and put common air in the place of it; then the other was filled with common water, and a bubble of air, equal to that in the other, was put into it, and it was found, that the air was vanished into the exhausted water, but that the other remained almost intire in bulk. I am taking order about the engraving of my microscopical pittance, which I hope will be very well done. I this week observed a creature newly come out of the egg, which by comparing it with the biggest old one I have seen of that kind, I found to be above 130000 times less than the bulk it was likely to come to, if it survived; of which, I believe, we shall not find many other examples in nature. I have now procured the new *Jamaica* nuts; and had I not been advertised, that your return would be either this *Saturday*, or the following *Monday*, they had been sent you by.

Right honourable,

your honour's most affectionate,

most faithful, and most humble servant,

ROB. HOOKE.

3

I HAVE

I HAVE ſent a ſmall bag of the nuts, underſtanding by Mr. *Wh.*'s letter, that you will not be here till *Thurſday*. The two feet perſpective I alſo ſent, the box was delivered to the carrier the laſt week before he went away. Mrs. *Kuffler* is very earneſt to know, when you will give order about the engine, and ſeems to be a little angry, and wonders you ſhould be worſe than your word, and ſuch kind of ſpeeches; though I had given her the reaſon, why you could not do it before you went hence.

[*July* , 1667.]

I WAS very ſorry to find the coach return from *Leez* without bringing you in it; but I am glad however to hear, that your return will be the beginning of the next week. There was but little done this *Wedneſday* at *Greſham* college, much of the time being taken up in obſerving the experiment, which was made with the glaſs tubes of forty-five feet high, in which there was little remarkable, but what you will eaſily predict muſt neceſſary follow; that is, that the water, upon the turning off the lower ſtop-cock, fell down to between thirty-two or thirty-three feet from the bottom; that as it fell, and a good while after, abundance of bubbles appeared near the top of the water; that as thoſe bubbles riſe for a good while, ſo all that while the water continued to deſcend a little; inſomuch, that when we were coming away, I obſerved it to be about 29½ feet high, and it is likely it would afterward deſcend lower. That one of our tubes conſiſting of ſeveral pieces, leaked. That upon theſe obſervables, ſeveral things are ordered to be tried the next day; as firſt to fill the tube with exhauſted water to * * * the bubbles that riſe; to make a device to cloſe the ſtagnant water ſo, that the air may not get in: to make the other tube tight, and ſo to join both together by a bended pipe at the top, and the like. After we returned from this experiment, Sir *R. Moray* preſented the Society with an engine ſent to them by prince *Rupert*; being for raiſing water, ſuch a one as, I am ſure, you have ſeen and taken notice of in *Scottus* his mechanics, whoſe contrivance is, continually to raiſe water, by turning round a cylinder with a ſliding board in it, included in another hollow cylinder or barrel. The engine has not been tried, but it will be the next *Wedneſday*. But I find, that it goes exceeding hard with the ſeveral grating and ſliding motions that it has, ſo that it is more likely to prove a pretty curioſity than a uſeful engine. But this gave an occaſion of producing the definition or deſcription of the marquis of *Worceſter*'s water-commanding engine, which is ſo purely romantic, that it would ſerve one rarely to fill half a dozen pages in the *Hiſtory of Fortunatus his wiſhing Cap*. A tranſcript of ſome of the moſt obſervable paſſages, becauſe I could not procure the book itſelf to ſend you, I have here incloſed, which if it ſhould chance to perform but the leaſt part of what is therein ſpecified, my lord *Brereton*, is likely to pay 5*l.* towards the revenue, that is to accrue thereby to the marquis, he having wagered ſo much againſt him. I was ſince my return to *London* to ſee this engine, where I found *Caltrop*, his chief engineer, to laugh at it; and as far as I was able to ſee of it, it ſeemed one of the perpetual motion fallacies. Of which kind *Caltrop* himſelf, and two or three others that I know, are labouring at this time in vain, to make, but after ſeveral ways; and nothing but coſtly experience will make them deſiſt. We had next Sir *R. Moray* and Mr. *Oldenburg*'s relation of the excellent *French* lithotomiſt, which gave occaſion to Sir *Anthony Morgan* to relate the hiſtory of an *Iriſh* lithotomiſt that does the ſame thing, though, if it be according to his deſcription, by a more eaſy and expedient way. And Dr. *Whiſtler* affirmed the ſame to be done by a *Scotchman*, and calls it cutting by the gripe, the more perfect relations of which are to be given in by thoſe perſons in writing. Sir *R. Moray* likewiſe produced the ſtone cut out of the heart of the *Scotch* nobleman I formerly told you of; it was very

very hard, and of a miſhapen figure, and looked in colour like a flint. Mr. *Pell* brought in a bag of ſand, which he affirmed would be baked into a ſubſtance like *Flanders* jugs. It looks and feels like clay beat to duſt, and I gueſs it to be a ſubſtance between both; that is a ſandy clay, or clayiſh ſand. I cannot find any peculiarity in it with a microſcope. Dr. *Charlton* gave a deſcription of *Aubery* in *Wiltſhire*, which ſeems indeed by his relation a very ſtrange piece of antiquity, and more admirable than *Stonehenge*, which he hopes to make an argument to confirm his hypotheſis about that *Chorea Gigantum*. Dr. *Pope* is going for *Italy*, but I ſuppoſe will not be gone before your return, who will be very glad to be charged with enquiries by you. Some things about the growth of ſalmons were handed to and fro, ſome flatly contradicting others. The laſt thing we had was a relation of Sir *W. Petty*'s ſhip new modelled, upon which he has already laid 50 *l.* that it ſhall go ſafe to *Holy-Head* and back again; and it was ſet forward on that attempt before he writ that letter, which was read. I have ſent you likewiſe a new book of philoſophy, but I fear it contains but little of that ſubject worth any thing. I but juſt now received it, and have not had time to look it over. There is nought elſe worth your knowledge, only this incloſed, which I ſuppoſe contains ſeveral things, which ſhould elſe have been ſent you by.

Right honourable,

your honour's moſt affectionate,

moſt faithful, and

moſt humble ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

Honoured SIR, *Friday* 10 in the morning, from *Pall-Mall*, [1663.]

I HAVE not received any of your commands ſince I took my leave of you for *London*. I know not, whether there has any thing miſcarried, nor have I written any thing ſince this day ſev'nnight, there having happened little or nothing conſiderable in that time; only I ſhould have ſooner given you an account of an interview I had of Mr. *Hobbes*, which was at Mr. *Reeve*'s, he coming along with my lord *De.* to be aſſiſtant in the chooſing a glaſs. I was, I confeſs, a little ſurpriſed at firſt to ſee an old man ſo view me and ſurvey me every way, without ſaying any thing to me; but I quickly ſhaked off that ſurpriſal, when I heard my lord call him Mr. *H.* ſuppoſing he had been informed to whom I belonged. I ſoon found by ſtaying that little while he was there, that the character I had formerly received of him was very ſignificant. I found him to lard and ſeal every aſſeveration with a round oath, to undervalue all other men's opinions and judgments, to defend to the utmoſt what he aſſerted though never ſo abſurd, to have a high conceit of his own abilities and performances, though never ſo abſurd and pitiful, *&c.* He would not be perſuaded, but that a common ſpectacle-glaſs was as good an eye-glaſs for a thirty-ſix feet glaſs as the beſt in the world, and pretended to ſee better than all the reſt, by holding his ſpectacle in his hand, which ſhook as faſt one way as his head did the other; which I confeſs made me bite my tongue. But indeed Mr. *Pell*'s deſcription of his deportment, when diſcourſed with about mathematical demonſtrations (which he gave the laſt *Wedneſday*) ſurpaſſes all the reſt. There was very little done this week at *Greſham* college, the whole ſtay being not much above an hour. My lord *B.* Sir *R. M.* and Monſieur *Zul.* were very inquiſitive when you would return. There was an account read of Monſieur *Le Fevre*'s trial to volatilize ſalt of tartar with burnt alum, which you have long ſince heard. Monſieur *Zul.* tried his own experiment, but it ſucceeded not, though

though he confeſſed the engine was very tight, and it will be tried again the next day according to his ordering. The accounts, which I acquainted you with the laſt week, were not brought in as was expected. Sir *R. M.* gave in the meaſure of an infant of ſixteen weeks old, which was ſent him out of *Scotland*, a pattern whereof I have here incloſed. There is a meeting of the council upon *Monday*, where your preſence is much expected and longed for. There is very little in Dr. *Power*'s microſcopical obſervations but what you have ſince obſerved; only there is a pretty experiment he tried with the leeches in vinegar, that ſurvived the freezing of the vinegar they lived in; and another pretty experiment he has in his philoſophical reflections upon his obſervations, which is of making a certain kind of coals kindle into a fire and flame, by throwing water on them, when newly dug out of the mine. I am ſorry to ſee, that he intends to publiſh ſeveral experiments about colours, which I am confident might be originally yours. He will likewiſe publiſh the experiment of freezing an eye, to find the ſhape of it, whoſe invention he aſcribes to another. There is not much more beſides, that is very conſiderable in it, and therefore I ſhall refer the further account of it till your return, till when I ſhall keep the book by me. I have made a microſcope object glaſs ſo ſmall, that I was fain to uſe a magnifying glaſs to look upon it, but it did not ſucceed ſo well as I hoped; but I ſuppoſe it might be, becauſe this being the firſt I had made, the tool was not very true, nor my hand well habituated to ſuch an employment. And therefore I deſpair not of better ſucceſs in my next attempt. Mr. *Lower* was to have waited on you, and was ſorry to miſs you here in town. He had Dr. *Willis*'s ſervice to have preſented to you, whoſe book he tells me is within a little while to come forth, and he added, that Dr. *Wren* had drawn the pictures very curiouſly for it; and I am glad to hear it will afford ſuch conſiderable diſcoveries, which I doubt not but you know. I queſtion not, but that Mr. *Oldenburg* has acquainted you with the news, that is extant, in this incloſed, and therefore I ſhall not trouble you with that particular. Nor has there occurred any thing elſe ſince my coming worth your knowledge; otherwiſe it ſhould have been ſent you by,

Honoured Sir,
your moſt affectionate,
moſt faithful, and
moſt humble ſervant,
ROB. HOOKE.

I SUPPOSE Mr. *Murray* has told you, that Mr. *Nicolls* deſires to ſpeak with you.

I JUST now received a letter from Mr. *Whit.* to ſend down the horſe; but it is ſo lame, that it is altogether unable to perform a journey.

SIR, *Aug.* 25, 1664.

I HOPE this will find you ſafe returned to *Oxford* after your Weſtern journey, which I underſtood you intended upon *Thurſday* laſt to begin, or elſe I had before this ſent the paper you gave me charge of; but being unable to do it time enough the laſt week, by reaſon I could not ſpeak with my landlord, I have delayed it till the latter end of this, as ſuppoſing your return to *Oxford* could not be ſooner. I have likewiſe here incloſed an *Iriſh* letter, which I received from my lady, and one from Mr. *Oldenburg*, which he gave me this afternoon. I have ſince your departure been on the top of *Paul*'s ſteeple, in order to make ſeveral experiments, which will be proſecuted this week; but it being the firſt time I had been there, I could not be

ſo well provided with an apparatus as I found was requiſite; and therefore I was fain to return with only making ſome obſervations. One was, that a pendulum of the length of one hundred and eighty feet did perform each ſingle vibration in no leſs time than ſix whole ſeconds; ſo that in a turn and return of the pendulum, the half ſecond pendulum was ſeveral times obſerved to give twenty-four ſtrokes or vibrations. Another was, that this long pendulum would ſometimes vibrate very ſtrangely, which was thus. The greateſt part of the line, by gueſs about ſix ſcore feet of the upper part of it, would hang directly perpendicular, and only the lower part vibrate, at what time the vibrations would be much quicker, and this though there was a weight of lead hung at the end of the ſtring of above four pound weight. In another place of the tower, where I had very clear perpendicular deſcent, I with a plumb-line found the perpendicular height of it two hundred and four feet very near, which is about ſixty feet higher than it was uſually reported to be. In which place I ſhall, with ſome other company, this week try the velocity of the deſcent of the falling bodies, the *Torricellian* experiment, and ſeveral experiments about pendulums, and weighing. I have ſince the laſt week almoſt brought my treble writing inſtrument to be practicable, inſomuch, that I hope to make it as eaſy to write three copies as one. I have made ſeveral trials of it, and have writ three ſides together very well, but yet I hope to make it better. We yeſterday made ſeveral odd experiments about the velocity and ſtrength of a bullet ſhot out of a carbine, whereof ſome circumſtances will certainly ſeem very odd: one of which was, that the bullet pierced through a board three inches thick, and yet broke not a very ſmall weak piece of white thread, that held that barred againſt the force of the bullet: a ſecond was, that though two of theſe ſmall threads were tied acroſs the noſe of the piece, ſo as one would have thought it impoſſible, that the powder ſhould have been diſcharged without breaking thoſe threads; yet, notwithſtanding, both the powder and bullet were diſcharged out of it, without doing the thread any other harm, than only a little ſingeing it, which made me a little reflect upon the ſtrange effects I had obſerved in thunder and lightning. And this puts me in mind of an excellent account we had of a prodigious ſtorm, that lately happened in *Italy*, between *Venice* and *Padua*, which I ſhould have added, but that I ſuppoſe Mr. *O.* has given you a copy of the letter. My lady I underſtand does to-morrow intend to go towards *Leez*. I was among the bookſellers this afternoon, but found nothing new.

MR. *Faithorne* has promiſed me to make all poſſible ſpeed with that you ordered him, but he does deſire a little farther directions. Whilſt I was writing this, Mr. *Faithorne* has ſent me the ſketch, which I have incloſed, to ſee whether you approve of the dreſs, the frame, and the bigneſs; what motto or writing you will have on the pedeſtal, and whether you will have any books, or mathematical, or chemical inſtruments, or ſuch like, inſerted in the corners, without the oval frame, or what other alteration or additions you deſire. It is almoſt ten o'clock, and therefore I hope you will excuſe this ſcribbled paper, and the abruptneſs, wherein I am forced to ſubſcribe myſelf,

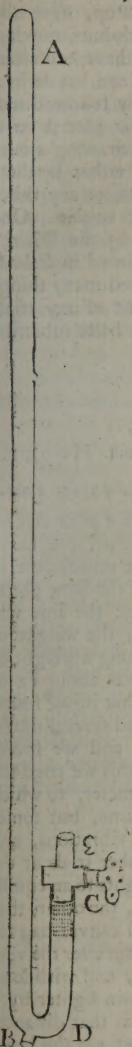
Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and
moſt faithful ſervant,
R. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Thurſday* night, [*Sept.* 8, 1664.]

I MUST in the firſt place return you my moſt humble acknowledgment for the honour and favour you have been pleaſed to oblige me with in your letter, which, to my power, I ſhall ever be ready to expreſs my ſenſe of. As for the experiments that

that I gave you an account of, that I intended to profecute on the top of St. *Paul's*, I have, by reaſon of ſome miſcarriages, only proceeded thus far, that drawing up a mercurial tube, made after the form, and ordered according to the manner here deſcribed, [A B a glaſs pipe, about three feet long, whoſe end A was cloſed, and the other open at C, and bended in the manner of a ſyphon, as appears in the figure; into C was cemented a ſmall ſtop-cock, to open and ſhut at pleaſure: and juſt in the bending of the pipe was drawn a ſmall hole B, by which the whole inſtrument, when the cock was ſtopped, was filled carefully top-full with quickſilver; and then the hole was very well ſtopped with a ſmall plaiſter of cement, ſpread on leather, and bound on when hot: then, by inverting the tube, and opening the cock, the quickſilver would fall to its uſual ſtation: then, by turning the cock, this inſtrument became portable, and might eaſily be carried up and down, without any danger of loſing the mercury, or admitting any air; for the mercury would not all vibrate, which, without the cock, it was ſo very apt to do, that without a great deal of care and trouble, it could not be ſtirred or moved, but the air would break in and get above the mercury,] I found the quickſilver to be at the top, full half an inch lower than it was at the bottom. The manner of making which experiment was thus. The ſteeple being without any kind of lofts, but having only here and there ſome rotten pieces of timber lying a-croſs it, I cauſed a rope to be ſtretched quite croſs the top, and faſtened, in the midſt of which I fixed a pully, through which I let down the ſtring and weight to the bottom (for only in the very middle of the ſteeple was there a broad clear paſſage from top to bottom) and to this I could not at the top approach within eighteen feet: having thus let down the rope, thoſe that were at the bottom hung on this mercurial tube (which I had exactly marked, and ſtopped, and ſet ready before I went up) a large weather-glaſs (which moved by the rarefaction and condenſation of the air only, which I had likewiſe marked and ſtopped) and a ſealed thermometer, which I had likewiſe marked. After theſe were drawn up, and, by a contrivance of another pully I had drawn them to me, I found the thermometer, the glaſs being but thin, broken. The quickſilver, upon opening the cock, I found to fall very conſiderably, which ſince, upon meaſuring, I find $\frac{25}{43}$ of an inch: the weather-glaſs I found to be riſen ſomewhat more than two inches: then cloſing them again, I cauſed them to be let down, and giving them charge not to let it quite down till I called to them from below, I went down myſelf, and found, upon opening the mercurial tube, that it roſe exactly to its firſt ſtation; as did alſo the weather-glaſs. I had deſigned to have tried many others then; but the night came ſo faſt, that I could hardly ſee to get up again, and give order for the clearing of the lines. But I deſign, within a day or two, to make ſeveral other experiments. We have ſince the laſt made very few experiments worth your hearing, only trying the velocity of ſeveral ſmall balls of bees-wax, which deſcended in a glaſs pipe filled with water, and divided into inches, we found, by ſeveral trials, that it moved almoſt the whole length of 81 inches downwards, with very near an equal velocity, only ſomewhat accelerated towards the bottom, if the balls



were very ſmall; but if they were any thing big, we found them much ſlower towards the bottom; the reaſon of which was accidental, and would not have happened, had not the lower end of the tube been ſomewhat leſs than the top; but thoſe ſmall ones, whoſe motion the narrowneſs of the tube did not at all or very little ſtop, were obſerved for near twenty inches, to keep even pace with a half ſecond pendulum, moving juſt an inch every vibration, but beyond twenty they grew ſwifter. I have conſulted with Mr. *Faithorne*, who is ready to do any thing he ſhall be directed, and has deſired me to contrive it how it will be moſt convenient, and he will punctually follow directions. I have made a little ſketch, which repreſents your firſt engine placed on a table, at ſome diſtance beyond the picture, which is diſcovered upon drawing a curtain. Now, if you think fit, I think it might be proper alſo to add, either by that, or in the corners A or B (where alſo you may have any other inſtruments, or any thing elſe added, if you think fit) your laſt emendation of the pneumatic engine. One word or two, I beſeech you, of directions in this particular. I ſent by the *Wedneſday*'s coach a ſmall weather-glaſs, and Dr. *Henſhaw*'s book, which is printed in *Ireland*, wherein he has mentioned you; and he has added a preface, and altered many things in his book. I hope, by the next poſt, to ſend you a farther account of my trials on *Paul*'s: in the mean time, and ever, I muſt remain, and in great haſte ſubſcribe myſelf,

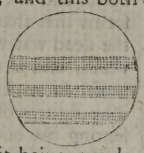
Moſt Honoured Sir,
your moſt humble, and
moſt faithful ſervant,
ROB. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Greſham College, Sept.* 15, 1664.

I RECEIVED the honour of your letter, and ſhall endeavour to ſee your deſires therein moſt punctually performed. As for the experiments on *Paul*'s, I have, ſince my laſt, made ſeveral other trials, which, I ſuppoſe, will not be unwelcome to you. Upon *Tueſday*, the lord *Br.* Sir *R. M.* and myſelf, were again at the ſame place, and examined the vibrations of a pendulum of two hundred feet long: the line was a treble hard twiſt, one about the bigneſs of a very ſmall gooſe-quill; the weight of it ſomewhat more than half a pound; at the lower end of this was hung a weight of lead, of 28 pound averdupois; this we found, when each vibration was about 12 or 14 feet, to make one ſingle vibration in 7 ſeconds and almoſt an half; that is, we found it to make 13 vibrations in 100 ſeconds pretty exactly; this we repeated ſeveral times, and found the ſame; then we ſuffered it to vibrate not above a foot, and we found them ſomewhat quicker; that is, 13 vibrations in 98 ſeconds. After this we tried the ſame experiment with a ſmall wire, about a 32d part of an inch in diameter, to which we hung the ſame weight, and found the vibrations very much the ſame, but ſomewhat ſwifter and longer. This we tried, both with longer and ſhorter vibrations, and found them to corroſpond with the former. On *Wedneſday* we made farther trials at the ſame place, and that was, with a very curious beam we brought two weights to an equilibrium at the top of the tower, the one was a 15 pound weight of braſs, the other, that counterpoiſed it, was a company of ſmaller braſs weights, tied in a ſmall canvas bag together with the former ſmall line, by which, after we had hung the beam over the very middle of the ſteeple, we let down the bag of weights to the bottom, and with long adjuſtening we found, that the counterpoiſing bag and ſtring was grown lighter by a drachm. And this was very obſervable, that though the weight hung at that diſtance, and though, by ſome misfortune, the cock of the beam was miſſing, yet was the beam ſo tender, that a very ſmall weight, as ſome very few grains, would very ſenſibly

turn

turn it, and, when brought to an equilibrium, the beam would vibrate, as if it only had a pair of ſhort ſcales hanging to it. The cauſe of this phænomenon, *viz.* why the bag, that was let to the bottom, was found lighter, was judged to proceed from the denſity of the air at the bottom, which I acquainted you with, as I think, in the laſt letter: but we repeated the *Torricellian* experiment ſince, and found the difference ſome very ſmall matter leſs than half an inch. But our weather-glaſſes again failed us, as did alſo our inſtrument for the velocity of falling bodies: yet ſome we made, but thoſe ſo imperfect, that I ſhall not, till we make them more accurate, trouble you with an account of them; nor of ſome other attempts, till I have farther perfected them. We made, on *Wedneſday*, a very conſiderable experiment with powder; for incloſing only ſix-pennyweight of P. *Rupert*'s powder in one of our cylinders (the faſhion whereof you, I doubt not, do well remember) and having very firmly ſcrewed it up, it was fired by a ſmall touch-hole, no bigger than a pin's head, which was drilled through the ſide of it: the effect was, that it broke the cylinder (which was every where very ſound, and made of very tough iron, and, in the thinneſt place, where it broke, was above half an inch, and in ſome near three quarters thick, ſo that I can hardly think the weight of 100 ton hung at it, would have been able to have pulled ſo much iron in ſunder point blank) in four (if not more) pieces, and that in ſuch places where there was no beginning of a crack, with a moſt hideous crack and noiſe, like a ſmall field-piece of ordnance: the ſide in which the touch-hole was made we found entire; nor was that hole any thing widened by the eruption of the fire. We ſhall yet again make ſome more trials of it before we leave it, that ſo we may bring it to ſome certainty and theory. I begin now to make uſe of a 36 feet glaſs, and hope ſhortly to make ſome obſervations, which I hope may be worth your knowledge, the Society having very freely and willingly furniſhed me with tubes, according to my directions; as alſo with an exact time-keeper, which I have ſome reaſon to believe, ſhall not be much excelled by any whatever: but theſe are not yet completed. In the mean time, I find very much is to be diſcovered with theſe long glaſſes, which none of the ſhorter I have yet ſeen would help one in; and this both in the moon and the other planets: and, looking this night on *Jupiter*, I found its form ſomewhat of this in the margin; of which I never ſaw it before, but only in Mr. *Reeves*'s threeſcore feet glaſs ſome-while ſince. But I have already, I fear, given you too much trouble with this tedious ſcribble; and therefore ſhall not, at preſent, add thereunto, by relating my deſigns and intentions, whereof I may more ſeaſonably hereafter inform you, when experiment has been made; it being my deſign to acquaint you chiefly with matter of fact: and this method I am ſure I ſhall not break, when I aſſure you that I am,



Moſt Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful, and

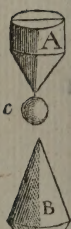
moſt humble ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, [*Oct.* 6, 1664.]

I HAVE forborn all this time to give you the trouble of one of my ſcribbles, that I might have been able to have made it ſomewhat the leſs troubleſome, by giving you an account of ſome further trials made on *Paul*'s. But ſuch have been the diſappointments, from winds, and rains, and divers other accidents, that we have not as yet made any further proceeding in that buſineſs. The magnetical experiments alſo,

which you were pleaſed to propound, ſhould long ere this have been tried, had not the multitude of iron bars, wherewith all the top ſtone, and indeed all the ſtones of the ſteeple are tied together, wholly ſpoiled that deſign: and indeed I fear (the winter weather coming on ſo faſt) we ſhall hardly make any more trials there before the next ſpring. Concerning hygroſcopes I have lately made ſeveral trials, and among the reſt I find, that there is no body ſo ſenſible of the changes of the air, as to drineſs and moiſture, as the beard of the ſeed of geranium moſcatum, and of ſeveral other ſorts of large cranes bill, a vegetable ſubſtance, that has not, that I know of, been taken notice of by any writer or other perſon whatſoever; and I have found it, if the ſeed be perfectly ripe before it be gathered, to be indeed the moſt proper body to make a hygroſcope withal. I have alſo, ſince my ſettling at *Greſham* college, which has been now full five weeks, conſtantly obſerved the baroſcopical index (the contrivance, I ſuppoſe, you may remember, which ſhews the ſmall variations of the air) and have found it moſt certainly to predict rainy and cloudy weather, when it falls very low; and dry and clear weather, when it riſeth very high, which if it continue to do, as I have hitherto obſerved it, I hope it will help us one ſtep towards the raiſing a theorical pillar, or pyramid, from the top of which, when raiſed and aſcended, we may be able to ſee the mutations of the weather at ſome diſtance, before they approach us; and thereby being able to predict, and forewarn, many dangers may be prevented, and the good of mankind very much promoted. We have at the Society made lately ſeveral trials about the deſcent of variouſly figured bodies through the water, and amongſt the reſt (which are not yet brought to an exactneſs, and therefore I ſhall not till then trouble you with them) there was this very conſiderable diſcovery (for I do not find it was diſcovered, or ſo much as ſuppoſed before, but rather the clean contrary believed and builded on) that of two bodies of equal weight of the ſame wood, of the ſame ſhape, as to that part which did as it were cleave the water (which was conical, being a cone, whoſe baſis was three inches diameter, and whoſe altitude was two) that body did deſcend the faſteſt through the water, which had the upper end flat; and that body the ſloweſt, which had the hindmoſt end ſharp. So that it ſeems that that edge, which comes behind a ſquare or flat ſterned veſſel, and is called the dead water, and which is much greater in ſuch an one, than in a tapering ſterned veſſel, and is therefore commonly ſuppoſed to hinder and obſtruct the ſwiftneſs of the veſſel ſo much the more, does rather very much promote or accelerate its motion.



The figures of the bodies were theſe in the margin, expreſſed by *A* and *B*, *A* repreſenting the body that went the faſteſt; and this did not ſeem to proceed from any other cauſe than the flatneſs of the upper ſide of *A*, and the ſharpneſs of that of *B*; the weight *C*, that ſunk both the one and the other, being one and the ſame. We did yeſterday likewiſe make a conſiderable experiment of refraction in the refracting engine (which I ſuppoſe you might ſee before you went for *Oxford*) for firſt we found the refraction of water (being able to meaſure it with accurateneſs to minutes) to be very near what has been hitherto aſſigned it, namely, we found the angle of incidence to be 41° 35′; and the angle the refracted ray made with the perpendicular to be 30° 00′, the ſigns of which angles (being 66371 and 50000, that is, as 398 + to 300) are almoſt as 4 to 3. But all things remaining as they were, only removing the water out of the veſſel, and putting in, inſtead of it, ſpirit of wine highly rectified (which we found would burn all away, and was by weight in proportion to the water near as 19 to 22) we found, that the refracted angle remaining the ſame of 3° 00′, the angle of incidence was 42° 45′, whoſe ſines being 50000 and 67880, the proportion is ſomewhat more than 3 to 4, namely, are 300 to 407; ſo that it ſeems the refraction of ſpirit of wine is greater than that of water. This experiment we tried upon

upon Mr. *Oldenburg*'s being informed, that an experiment ſomewhat of this kind had been made at *Paris*. Both theſe experiments of the deſcent of bodies through the water, and of the various refractions of ſeveral ſorts of liquors, I ſuppoſe we ſhall ſhortly proſecute more fully; there being many uſeful things on the true theory both of the one and the other. I am now engaged in a very great deſign, which I fear I ſhall find a very hard, difficult, and tedious taſk, and that is, the compiling a hiſtory of trades and manufactures; the perſon I formerly told you of, namely, Sir *John Cutler*, having very nobly and freely, without any compulſion or excitement, not only kept his word, but been better than it, ſending me in yeſterday a half year's ſalary beforehand, as an earneſt of his intention. The moſt I think I ſhall be able to do in this buſineſs this term (being engaged to read for doctor *Pope*) will be only to make a ſhort ſpeech, both in praiſe of Sir *John*, my noble patron, and of the excellency and uſefulneſs of the deſign itſelf, and of what method and courſe I ſhall take in it; and, by God's aſſiſtance, I ſhall endeavour to the utmoſt of my power to go as far in it as I am able, being reſolved wholly to apply my mind and endeavours to it: and if I can therein any way ſerve you, as I have great hopes I may, it will be eſteemed a very great happineſs by,

Moſt Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful and moſt humble ſervant,

RO. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Greſham College, Oct.* 21, 1664.

I AM extremely ſorry that I have not been able ſooner to ſend down the ball and ſocket you deſired; for ſuch have been the diſappointments of thoſe I had beſpoke it of, that no leſs than three have failed me, and I was fain to ſtand by a fellow moſt part of this day to direct him, and he has not yet quite finiſhed it; but I hope to ſend it down to-morrow morning: for Mr. *Reeves* (who underſtands theſe things, and I think he only, of all the turners I have met with) is at preſent in ſuch a condition that he can do nothing. Perhaps you may have heard of it; if not, in ſhort, he has, between chance and anger, killed his wife, who died of a wound ſhe received by a knife flung out of his hand, on *Saturday* laſt. The jury found it manſlaughter, and he and all his goods are ſeized on; and it is thought it may go hard with him. As for the time of the conjunction of *Mercury* and *Sol*, there are ſo various calculations of it, according as they are made from theſe or other tables, that it is certainly the moſt ſafe way to watch for it two or three days before, and three days after the 25th of *October*. If it appear not ſooner, we do here intend, God willing, to watch and make as diligent and accurate obſervations, as the ſeaſon (which I am apt to think will be fair) and the apparatus we have will afford; whereof, God willing, I ſhall give you a more full account in my next. Here have not been many experiments, ſince the laſt time I wrote, worthy your notice: only we did yeſterday try the deſcent of bodies through water; the manner of which trials, though we have not yet brought them to any accurateneſs or method, may perhaps be not unacceptable to you. We took then a good large, round, thick glaſs, and by putting in very ſmall ſhot, we brought it to an equilibrium with the water, in which we immerſed it; and then taking the exact weight of it, we had thereby the weight of as much water as was equal to it in bulk. Of this weight we weighed five ſeveral parcels of ſhot, and four other parcels, that were equal each of them to a quarter only of this weight; then putting in one of theſe quarters, we found this bottle (which was thereby a quarter heavier than water) to deſcend eight feet of water in about 4″ 45‴, putting in a ſecond, and ſo making it half

half heavier than water, it descendeth the same depth in 3″ 14‴, putting in a third, which made it ¾ heavier, its descent was in 2″ 45‴, by a fourth made as heavy again, or twice the weight of water, it descended in 2″ 14‴, by a whole parcel added, made thrice as heavy as water, it descended 1″ 41‴, made four times as heavy, in 1″ 17‴, five times as heavy, in 1″ 10‴, five times and a half as heavy, which filled the glass with shot, in 1″ 6‴. I have not yet had time to cast up and see what proportions these times keep to the preponderation of the descending globular glass; nor shall I trouble you with the repeating of these trials, which were found by the instrument for falling bodies not to differ more than some few thirds one from one another. But by this way, when prosecuted, I hope we may be able to raise a true theory of the resistance of a fluid medium; but I have not as yet any time to spend on these things, and therefore should be very glad if yourself, or Dr. *Wallis*, or Dr. *Wren*, would examine what might be done in that kind; and what observations shall be further made, I shall most faithfully give an account of. I am speedily going to make observations and tables of refraction by the instrument, which I find exceeding exact. And Monsieur *Zulichem*'s account, which he sends to Sir *R. M.* of their being able to see the satellites of *Jupiter* pass between that body and our eye, and to see the shadow those little moons make on the body of that earth; and to see those six several belts, and several other things, whereof I am apt to think Sir *R.* himself may have acquainted you with, has at length made me set upon my way of making object glasses, which, you may remember, I did long since acquaint you with; for certainly, if these be made with a mandrel only, without any tool, as the letter affirms, I hope I have reason to expect greater events from this, which must certainly be the most accurate way imaginable for making spherical glasses. What my success therein shall be, I shall be sure to acquaint you with. As concerning the baroscope; I find that upon the fourth instant it was very low, and the wind was exceeding high; many of which instances I have not yet observed; but as soon as I can get a little time to make me a weather clock, and to set all my things in order for the enquiring into the causes of the changes of weather, which I fear will not be till after this term, I hope I shall be able to give you a better account. I meet with nothing new in *Paul*'s church-yard, but two pamphlets, which, whether worth your sight or not, I had not time enough to examine. I had herewithal inclosed also a small microscope, made with one single glass, which I find to magnify the object, and make it as clear, when conveniently placed, as one of Mr. *Reeves*'s largest; but the glass was so small, that in putting up it was rubbed off and lost: but by the next I hope you may have as good a one sent you by.

Most Honoured Sir, your most affectionate and
most faithful humble servant,
R. HOOKE.

Most Honoured SIR,

THERE has very little happened since you left *London*, that I have met with, worthy your knowledge. I did (as I remember) acquaint you with the success of the powder inclosed in an iron, which neither broke the case, nor was perceived to go off. Upon opening this last *Wednesday*, there was found a pretty quantity of a black dirt, which laid on paper presently dissolved like an alcali: some of it put on a coal, did not at all burn like salt-petre, sulphur, or gunpowder. The same experiment will be tried again with double the quantity of powder, which will be a noble experiment, if it break not the vessel, nor force itself away between the plug and the hole; which last I guess will be almost as difficult as the former; for the plug is made of steel, and

and by ſcrewing makes its own way in; and beſides the heat will make them, if poſſible, ſit cloſer together. And indeed upon viewing the laſt, I could find no ſign by which I could gueſs it to have leaked, unleſs the alcaliſate nature of the included ſubſtance be one, of which I can ſay nothing. Some experiments we made of breaking wood, which were conſiderable, and gave occaſion to hope, that this ſubject will afford many uſeful experiments. We had a relation of a way of diſcovering the ſholes of fiſh from the top of certain hills in *Cornwall* and in *Ireland*; which was ſeconded by many teſtimonies, and is indeed a very philoſophical one, and may afford good hints. The ſtory in ſhort was this: That in thoſe parts it is uſual for a man, ſtanding on the top of ſome hill near the ſea, to diſcover where the fiſh lie in the ſea, and which way they move; and from thence by certain ſigns with his feet, and hands, and hat, to direct the fiſhermen on the water, who can perceive nothing of what he on the mountains ſees, though they be juſt over the ſhoal of fiſh. Some obſervations, ſomewhat like this, I remember I have often taken notice of, from the tops of hills near the ſea ſide, whence I could perceive plainly how far the rock ran out into the ſea, though they were covered with water to a great depth, which I could not at all ſee when I was on the water in a boat; which made me think (and this of the *Corniſh* men has confirmed me) that all the appearances in theſe parts of the moon, which are accounted the ſea of it, may this way be ſolved. And this minds me to acquaint you with an obſervation I made ſeveral nights this laſt week, with a teleſcope not above eight inches long, wherewith I could plainly ſee the ſatellites of *Jupiter* and *Saturn* oval, though not angulated, and the body of *Jupiter* appeared full as big as with a four feet glaſs; which ſhews what one might expect, if we could make object glaſſes that would bear a large aperture and a deep charge. We ſhall to-morrow make a good experiment of the velocity in the vibrations of a ſounding ſtring, of which I ſhall acquaint you by the next. There is a gentleman here in town, that has a better way of teaching muſic, than what *Kircher* cauſeleſly enough vaunted his *Ars Combinatoria* to be, whereby he has preſently taught the duke of *Buckingham* to compoſe very well, though he knows nothing of the practic part of muſic. For buſineſs: Here has been lately the queen's receiver to demand rent for *Stalbridge*, and has deſired to have an anſwer ſent him as ſoon as I could. Mr. *Longe* has been here likewiſe, to deſire ſome ſpirits of harts-horn and ens Veneris for Dr. *Clodius*, becauſe he cannot get any of Mr. *Pullein*, and the doctor has not as yet, it ſeems, any conveniency of making it himſelf. Here was yeſterday Dr. *Willoughby* of *Merton* college in *Oxford*, to have waited on you, and deſires to have his humble ſervice preſented to you. As for my own buſineſs, wherewith I acquainted you before your departure, I cannot get any ſettlement of it, and know not as yet what it may prove, but I fear it is very dubious. Nor is there any thing done in the other buſineſs, the one I think hindering the other. The condenſing engine and the ſcales I have now by me, but did not ſend them, becauſe I hope my lord *Orrery*'s ſafe arrival will haſten your return to town. The pipes likewiſe are ready; and if there be any thing elſe you deſire to be provided againſt your coming, they ſhall, upon the receiving of your commands, be ſpeedily provided by,

Hoſt Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful and

moſt obliged humble ſervant,

ROB. HOOKE.

MR. *Oldenburg* deſires to have his ſervice preſented to you.

Moſt Honoured SIR, [*Oct.* 29, 1664.]

I WAS not a little troubled, when upon *Friday* noon calling at the *Saracen*'s *Head*, to ſee whether the ball and ſocket were gone (as the porter, that belongs to *Moore*, had with all aſſeverations promiſed it ſhould be by that morning's coach, for it was delivered to him before nine of the clock that morning) I found, that he had played the rogue, and kept it behind, intending to ſend it, as I ſuppoſe, by the next week's waggon, and this, though it were delivered to him with as great a charge as could be imagined. But as it has ſince fallen out, I hope there was not much harm done, *Mercury* having been too ſubtil for thoſe, that laid ſpies for him, by ſlipping by the ſun either in the night, or at leaſt by one ſide of the diſk of the ſun; for to none of thoſe, that endeavoured to find this conjunction here at *London*, has there been any glimpſe of it, though upon *Tueſday*, as I imagined we ſhould, we had very fair and clear weather. All which day my lord *Br.* Sir *W. P.* Mr. *Ball*, and myſelf, were very diligent in obſervations. I did not neither omit to obſerve the ſun on *Monday* and *Wedneſday*, as oft as I had opportunity of ſeeing it appear from between the clouds. Upon *Wedneſday* laſt we had ſcarce any thing done, the moſt of the Society being gone to *Woolwich*, together with the king and council, and moſt part of the court, to ſee the great ſhip launched. I did notwithſtanding diſſect a viper, which gave ſome good diſcourſes of poiſon, among the reſt Dr. *Croone* gave an account, that he had newly ſpoke with a perſon, that had a long time lived in the court of the king of *Macaſſer*, and had ſeen hundreds diſpatched with thoſe ſtrange kind of poiſons: and though very many *European* chirurgeons had tried to recover the perſons, only very ſlightly hurt by the poiſoned weapon, and though they had immediately, as ſoon as ever the perſon were hurt, cut out all the wounded part; yet within a very ſhort ſpace thoſe poor wretches would fall down ſtone dead. But as concerning the fleſhes being turned into a jelly, he could never have any certain knowledge of it, having never himſelf ſeen any ſuch effect. Mr. *Povey* affirmed further of our *Engliſh* vipers, that though many had thought the biting no way mortal, yet that not long ſince a gentleman, with whom he was intimately acquainted, was, by a bite in his hand from a provoked *Engliſh* viper, though all endeavours had been immediately uſed to prevent any ill ſymptoms, at length killed, after he had ſuffered an exceeding chilline's and deadneſs in that hand and arm for about a twelvemonth, ſo as that he could not keep any heat in them, though wrapped with all imaginable care in furs and other warm clothes. Now though I was able to obſerve little in that day, yet I have ſince by examining the carcaſe found, that the teeth (though at firſt they appeared perfectly tranſparent, and ſeemingly ſolid) were all hollow, and filled with a liquor, or juice, which it is not unlikely may be their poiſon; for upon the drying of the teeth, I found, that that juice was alſo waſted, and by a chain of ſmall bubbles, which then was viſible enough through the microſcope, I perceived the air had found the way into the cavity of the teeth. I fancied this viper had two fangs growing directly under each eye: that of them, which was under the right eye, though to the naked eye it appeared only one was diſcovered by the microſcope, to conſiſt of two ſmall teeth much like cat's claws, that on the left ſide was only one ſingle one. The contrivance for erecting and retracting, or ſheathing the teeth, was very pretty, and like all other articular motions of the body very mechanical; for by their opening their mouths, two ſmall jaw bones (as I may call them) which lay in the roof or upper part of their mouth, were made to thruſt outwards and forwards, and thereby being joined as it were to the midſt of the fangs; they erected the fangs, and there made them unſheath or appear without a kind of lid or præputium, into which they did again ſlide and lie concealed, when thoſe bones were drawn backward and inwards. Theſe ſmall bones had each of them

ſeven

ſeven or eight ſmall teeth apiece: the viper had alſo two ſuch ſmall bones in the under-chop. Exactly like theſe Dr. affirms, the teeth of a rattle-ſnake to be, but exceedingly bigger; and the hole in thoſe teeth to be big enough to have a pin thruſt into it. I did alſo make ſeveral tables of refractions from experiment, and find the hypotheſis of ſines to hold ſo great exactneſs, ſo that I think we need not much doubt, but that could we make elliptical glaſſes, much might be done in microſcopes more than has been yet performed. I tried the refraction alſo of a very ſtrong ſolution of common ſalt in water, and found the refraction greater than in common water. But which is more ſtrange than any yet made, I found very clear oil of turpentine to have the greateſt refraction of any body I have yet tried, though it be in ſpecie much lighter than the ſpirit of wine or any body I know. What my calculations are, I have here tranſmitted in the following tables. I have alſo in the incloſed box put up one of the ſeeds of muſk graſs, which is the only one I have left, having given but one of the bills this year: this you will find under the ſmall microſcope. The glaſs of this microſcope, though very ſmall, is, I think, very good, which you may perceive, if, without ſtirring the ſmall bruſh of hairs I have ſtuck on to it, you view them againſt the light of a candle, or of the window. I am now very buſy about an engine for making long teleſcopes, and almoſt finiſhed it; and hope by the next to have ſo far proceeded and ſucceeded in it, as that you may receive an account of it, which I hope will not be unacceptable to you, from,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt affectionate, moſt faithful, and moſt humble ſervant,

RO. HOOKE.

Common water.

The obſerved angle in the liquor.	The obſerved angle in the air.	The ſine of the obſerved angle in the liquor.	The ſine of the obſerved angle in the air.	The hypothetical proportion of the ſines of the angles of inclination in the air.	The angle anſwering the hypothetical ſine.
5 . 6 . 39		8716	11407	11609	6 . 40
10 . 13 . 19		17365	23033	23352	13 . 30
15 . 20 . 5		25882	34339	34474	20 . 10
20 . 27 . 4		34202	45503	45557	27 . 6
25 . 34 . 15		42262	56280	56294	34 . 15+
30 . 41 . 45		50000	66588	66666	41 . 46−
35 . 50 . 00		57358	76604	76400	49 . 50
40 . 58 . 45		64279	85491	85419	58 . 40
45 . 70 . 30		70711	94264	94387	70 . 42

Brine.

10 . 13 . 35		17365	23486	23759	13 . 44+
20 . 27 . 43		34202	46510	46756	27 . 52+
30 . 43 . 10		50000	68412	68412	43 . 10

Oil of turpentine.

10 . 14 . 45		17365	25460	25900	15 . 00+
20 . 30 . 5		34202	50126	50298	30 . 11+
30 . 47 . 20		50000	73531	73531	47 . 20

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Greſham College, Nov.* 10, 1664.

I HOPE you received the ball and ſocket, together with two little pamphlets, and the beard of a muſk graſs ſeed, which I ſince incloſed in a ſcribble. I have not ſince that met with any thing worthy your knowledge; only this week I made two experiments, which perhaps may not be unacceptable; the one was of refraction, wherein, in proſecution of the former experiments, I made ſome further trials upon ſallad oil, and found the refraction of it to be much greater than that of any liquor I have yet tried; the refraction of thirty grains requiring no leſs than an angle of inclination in the air of 46° 30′, and of twenty, an angle of inclination of 29° 27′. So that the proportion of their ſines is very near as 20 to 29½, or almoſt as 2 to 3. Theſe experiments I am further proſecuting, to find out the refraction of all kinds of ſaline menſtruums, of hot and cold water, of ſeveral kinds of oils; after that, I intend another inſtrument to find all the various refractions of cryſtal, glaſs, ice, horn, gums, and other tranſparent ſolid bodies; the refractions alſo of the parts of the eye, *&c.* Of each of which, as faſt as I make them, I ſhall ſend you an account. The other experiment (which I ſhall hardly, I confeſs, make again, becauſe it was cruel) was with a dog, which, by means of a pair of bellows, wherewith I filled his lungs, and ſuffered them to empty again, I was able to preſerve alive as long as I could deſire, after I had wholly opened the thorax, and cut off all the ribs, and opened the belly. Nay, I kept him alive above an hour after I had cut off the pericardium and the mediaſtinum, and had handled and turned his lungs and heart and all the other parts of its body, as I pleaſed. My deſign was to make ſome enquiries into the nature of reſpiration. But though I made ſome conſiderable diſcovery of the neceſſity of freſh air, and the motion of the lungs for the continuance of the animal life, yet I could not make the leaſt diſcovery in this of what I longed for, which was, to ſee, if I could by any means diſcover a paſſage of the air out of the lungs into either the veſſels or the heart; and I ſhall hardly be induced to make any further trials of this kind, becauſe of the torture of the creature: but certainly the enquiry would be very noble, if we could any way find a way ſo to ſtupify the creature, as that it might not be ſenſible, which I fear there is hardly any opiate will perform. I obſerved this, that at any time, if the bellows were ſuffered to reſt, and that by that means the reciprocal motion of the lungs were not continued, the animal would preſently begin to die, the lungs falling flaccid, and the convulſive motions immediately ſeizing the heart and all the other parts of its body; but upon the renewing the reciprocal motions of the lungs, the heart would beat again as regularly as before, and the convulſive motions of the limbs would ceaſe. There are ſeveral, that are much awakened by this experiment, and, I find, intend to proſecute it much further; of which I hope I ſhall have a certain account. There was the laſt day of meeting, *Nov.* 2, a letter from Monſieur *Zulichem*, wherein mention was made of a weaker glaſs made by the means of the riſing and falling of a ball of wax in ſalt water. This I had then acquainted you with, but that I knew it would be no news, ſince I well remember, there were ſeveral experiments of this kind proſecuted by you at *Chelſea* three or four years ſince. There has nothing elſe occurred worthy your knowledge; which if there had, or that for the future any ſuch ſhall, you ſhall thereof receive a punctual account from,

Moſt honoured Sir,
your moſt humble, and
moſt faithful ſervant,
R. HOOKE.

I HAVE

I HAVE not yet made any trial of my new engine, though it be now up, and was yesterday examined by my lord *Br.* Sir *R. M.* Sir *Paul N.* and several others, and not one objection made against it, but approved by all. I hope within some few days to make some trial, how it will answer expectation. I forgot to acquaint you in my last, that it was Mr. *Richard Reeves*, that has killed his wife, but he now hopes, that he shall be able to get off, only it will cost him some money. The bookseller's shops afford nothing new.

Most Honoured SIR, *November* 24, 1664.

HAVING received the honour of your commands by Dr. *Wren*, for procuring an instrument for refraction, whereby, as he told me, you designed to try the refraction of the humours of the eye; I did that very afternoon bespeak it; and I hope within a few days it will be ready to be conveyed to you. I have likewise procured out of Mr. *Oldenburg*'s hands some of the first sheets; and shall delineate as many of the instruments you mention, as I shall find convenient, or (if it be not too great a trouble to you) as you shall please to direct. I think it will be requisite also, because your descriptions will not refer to the particular figures and parts of them by the help of letters; that therefore it would not be amiss, if I add two or three words of explication of each figure, much after the same manner, as the affections of the prism are noted in your book of Colours. The figures I think need not be large, and therefore it will be best to put them all into one copper-plate; and so to print them, that they may be folded into, or displayed out of the book, as occasion serves. This puts me in mind to acquaint you also, that Mr. *Faithorne* has now at last promised me with all the asseverations imaginable, that he will not fail to finish your picture by the middle of the next week at furthest, and therefore I think I shall employ Mr. *Loggan* (who is an excellent graver also) that I may not take Mr. *Faithorne* off from finishing that plate. As for the microscopical observations, they have been printed off above this month; and the stay, that has retarded the publishing of them, has been the examination of them by several of the members of the Society; and the preface, which will be large, and has been stayed very long in the hands of some, who were to read it. I am very much troubled there is so great an expectation raised of that pamphlet, being very conscious, that there is nothing in it, that can answer that expectation; but such as it is, I hope I shall prevail with the printer to dispatch some time this or the next week. I have not yet brought the new way of grinding glasses to such perfection as may deserve your knowledge, though I have not been wanting in endeavouring to go through with that business. And though I meet with many rubs, which bare speculation could not so easily inform me of, yet observing, that to be a fortune, which is almost inseparable from all attempts of any new thing, and out of the common road, I shall not at all slacken my diligence in prosecuting of it. The person you were pleased to mention, as having made the anatomical experiment on the heart of a dog, was at the Society the next day, and made a short report of it. I have been able to try very little in anatomy since my last; only I opened a viper, and found, that all the lungs were nothing but one continued bladder, which reached more than half the length of the body; that the upper part only of it was interwoven with an infinite company of veins and arteries; and that near those vessels I could discover several small vessels, which seemed filled with several chains of small bubbles. I have not yet been able experimentally to determine, what the use of them may be: whether they were to be conjoined with the blood in the vessels, or with the open air, I cannot yet determine. I hear of nothing new in *Paul*'s *Church-yard*, but only *Ricciolo*'s second part of his Almagestum is published and expected daily. There has

nothing elſe occurred worthy your knowledge, which, as often as there does, an account thereof ſhall be ſpeedily preſented you by,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and

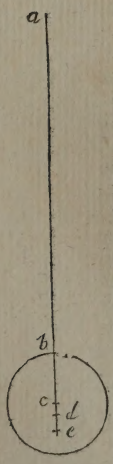
moſt faithful ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

THIS incloſed I received from Mr. *Evelyn*, who deſires his moſt humble ſervice to be preſented to you.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Dec.* 13, 1664.

I AM not only aſhamed, that I have not ſooner given you an account of what I promiſed in my laſt, but much more, that I am able as yet to ſay ſo little to the purpoſe; for though, when I laſt writ, I was promiſed, both by Mr. *Faithorne* and Mr. *Thompſon*, that I ſhould have thoſe things which they had in their hands, finiſhed within three or four days; and though I have often called upon them, and urged them all I could, I have not been able to get them done. I have lately obſerved many circumſtances in the height of the mercurial cylinder, which do very much croſs my former obſervations; for at this very time the quickſilver is as high as I have a long time obſerved it, and I don't remember, that it has been higher: it has riſen a little for theſe four or five days, and has continued ſo, notwithſtanding the variety of winds, and the multitude of rain that has lately fallen; and, I think, it riſes a little yet, but it is but little. I have taken notice alſo of two or three other very odd particulars lately in it, which have croſſed ſeveral other obſervations. The experiments we are now moſt buſy about, are concerning the adjuſtening of the length of pendulums, thereby to ſettle a common ſtandard for length; of which kind, Mr. *Zulichem* has ſent over ſome very pretty theories; but upon very careful trial with ſeveral accurate and large pendulums, made with balls of lignum vitæ, ſome of which balls are ſix inches over, others no bigger than the head of a pin, or a ſmall ſhot, and ſuſpended by a very curious hair, which ſeems as likely a way as any to find out to what point of the globular body, hung at the end of a ſtring, the length of ſuch a pendulum is to be reckoned. Monſieur *Zulichem* ſays, it is $\frac{2}{5}$ parts of a third proportional below the center of the ball c, the firſt of which proportionals are, a b + b c (that is, a c) and b c; namely, a b + b c, b c : : b c; $\frac{b c b c}{a b + b c}$, which we will ſuppoſe c e; $\frac{2}{5}$ of which taken below the centre gives d the point, to which the length of the pendulum a d is to be meaſured from a, the point of ſuſpenſion. Sure it is, that this point is below c, the centre of the body; but whether at d, I cannot poſitively yet affirm. The plate for your book was graven before I received your laſt of Mr. *Evelyn*'s. I have only taken notice of ſeven inſtruments, which you in thoſe ſheets I looked on have deſcribed; and thoſe I ſo put into one ſmall plate, that they will fold out of the book, when there is occaſion. This laſt of Mr. *Evelyn* I have given a ſmall draught of alſo to the engraver, who is not an *Engliſhman*, but one, that I find a very good workman, and very punctual to his word; which was the reaſon I did not employ Mr. *Faithorne*, as you directed, he having ſo very often and often diſappointed my expectation. I have ſince my laſt made an anatomy of a dog, and hope, that I have made a conſiderable new diſcovery; but this being the firſt time I have ſeen it, at leaſt taken notice of it, I cannot, till further trial, poſitively affirm any



thing, which, as ſoon as ever I am aſſured of it, you ſhall thereof receive an account from,

SIR,

your moſt faithful, and
moſt humble ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

I HOPE, Sir, you will pardon this haſty ſcribble, for it was near eleven a clock this night, before I could get from ſome company, met about the buſineſs of Sir *J. Cutler*.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Dec.* 15, 1664.

THIS letter coming ſo late to the poſt-houſe on *Tueſday* night, was brought back to me, ſince which I have made farther trial of Mr. *Zulichem*'s experiment; and both my lord *Br.* Sir *R. M.* and Dr. *Wren*, were judges and examiners of the experiment, and find, that the trials made with theſe pendulums, whoſe balls were of lignum vitæ, did not anſwer to Mr. *Zulichem*'s rule, and therefore it is now much doubted of. We had yeſterday in ſeveral parts of *England*, an account of the appearance of a very great comet in the ſouth ſouth-eaſt, with a very long tail, extended towards the north-weſt; ſome ſay about ten yards long, ſome about two; but how much that is, is difficult to gueſs, unleſs we could ſee it, which I have done all this laſt night, but to little purpoſe, by reaſon of the thickneſs of the air. It has been ſeen in *Yorkſhire*, and in *Cheſhire*, and at *Portſmouth*, and ſeveral other parts of *England*. I this day got a ſight of Mr. *Faithorne*'s plate, and indeed he has done the face very carefully and well; and, I think, very like; but has not quite finiſhed the plate. The other cuts are finiſhed for your book of Cold; but Mr. *Thompſon* has again diſappointed me. Your anatomical experiments, read by Mr. *Oldenburg*, were very highly approved of by the whole Society. I cannot yet perfect my teleſcope glaſſes, though they do now very much more flatter me with hopes than at firſt; ſo that I ſhall not yet give over. It ſeems, by ſome papers of Mr. *Oldenburg*, that they have made in *France* object glaſſes of 250 palms, which is about 160 feet long, and make uſe of them without a tube.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Greſham College, July* 8, 1665.

I DID this laſt week ſend down by *Moor*'s waggon a weather-glaſs poiſed upon its centres. I ſuppoſed it would be very eaſy to get a frame made for it at *Oxford*, otherwiſe I would have ſent one with it, but it would have much endangered the breaking of the thermometer, which it did once in our packing of it up; but I cauſed another to be made, which I think is very ſtrong, and, I hope, very ſafely packed up. I doubt not, but that you have long before this heard of the adjourning of the Royal Society, and of the increaſe of the ſickneſs, which rages much about that end of the town you left. I hear, ſeveral in the *Pell-mall* are infected, and one houſe almoſt emptied. It is not much ſpread as yet in the city, God be praiſed, though it be dangerouſly ſcattered. I cannot, from any information I can learn of it, judge what its cauſe ſhould be, but it ſeems to proceed only from infection or contagion, and that not catched but by ſome near approach to ſome infected perſon, or ſtuff: nor can I at all imagine it to be in the air, though yet there is one thing, which is very differing from what is uſual in other hot ſummers, and that is a very great ſcarcity of flies and inſects. I know not whether it be univerſal, but it is here at *London*

moſt

moſt manifeſt. I can hardly imagine, that there is a tenth part of what I have ſeen other years. We have made very few experiments ſince you were pleaſed to be preſent, but I hope, as ſoon as we can get all our implements to *Nonſuch*, whither Dr. *Wilkins*, Sir *W. Petty*, and I, are to remove next week, I ſhall be able to give you an account of ſome conſiderable ones, we having deſigned to proſecute the buſineſs of motion through all kinds of mediums, of which kind Sir *W.* has made already many very good obſervations. We ſhall alſo take the operator along with us, ſo that I hope, we ſhall be able to proſecute experiments there as well almoſt as at *London*; and if there be any thing, that you ſhall deſire to be tried concerning the reſiſtance of fluid mediums, or any kind of experiments about weight or vegetation, or fire, or any other experiments, that we can meet with conveniencies for trial of them there; if you would be pleaſed to ſend a catalogue of them, I ſhall endeavour to ſee them very punctually done, and to give you a faithful account of them. I very much fear alſo, that we ſhall be forced againſt our wills to ſtay there long enough to try experiments of Cold, though I have ſome thoughts of removing to another place farther from *London*, where I have deſigned to try a large catalogue of experiments, ſuch as one cannot every where meet with an opportunity of doing; but the country people are now ſo exceeding timorous, that they will not admit any, unleſs one have been a conſiderable time abſent from *London*. I was this day informed by one, that received a letter thence, that the plague rages ſo extremely in *Southampton*, that ſometimes there die thirty in a night; and that has made *Portſmouth*, and the iſle of *Wight* ſo fearful, that they will ſuffer none to enter. The founder has brought home the ſaucer ſtop-cock, which I ſent about the caſe of the weather-glaſs. Mr. *Thompſon* alſo has ſent home the inſtrument for taking angles, and demands two and thirty ſhillings. It is not quite finiſhed, but I intend to take it with me to *Nonſuch*, and there to make trial of it, and adjuſten it. I ſhewed it the laſt meeting of the Society, which it was very much approved of; and I hope it will be the moſt exact inſtrument that has been yet made. But I weary you with my impertinencies, and muſt therefore humbly beg your pardon, and make haſte to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt faithful ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Aug.* 15, 1665.

I HAVE not ſince the receiving of your letter, had the opportunity of ſending to Mr. *Oldenburg*, to learn from him the account of the experiment, which you were pleaſed to mention in it. I have longed very much to be ſatisfied concerning it, as believing it very conſiderable. I have made trial ſince I came hither, by weighing in the manner, as Dr. *Power* pretends to have done, a braſs weight both at the top, and let down to the bottom of a well about eighty feet deep, but contrary to what the doctor affirms. I find not the leaſt part of a grain of difference in a weight of half a pound between the top and bottom. And I deſire to try that and ſeveral other experiments in a well of threeſcore fathom deep, without any water in it, which is very hard by us. One of our quadrants does to admiration for taking angles, ſo that thereby we are able from hence to tell the true diſtance between *Paul's* and any other church or ſteeple in the city, that is here viſible, within the quantity of twelve feet, which is more than is poſſible to be done by the moſt accurate inſtrument, or the moſt exact way of meaſuring diſtances. The other, which is yours, I hope within a day

a day or two to perfect it, so as to go much beyond the other for exactness, of which I may give you an account as soon as I have tried. There happened lately a pretty odd accident: A very young and seemingly healthy gentlewoman by drinking the *Epsom* waters, and afterwards giving her young child (not yet much above a quarter old) suck, found, to her extreme sorrow, that though the waters did not at all work with her, yet that so wrought on the sucking child, that it fell into a most violent looseness and griping, which within three days killed it. I made last night also a pretty odd discovery of a new kind of shining animals, whose blood, or juices, did shine more bright than the tail of a glow-worm, when the candle was put out. I have nothing more to add, but that I am,

Most Honoured Sir,

your most faithful

and most humble servant,

R. HOOKE.

THERE is somewhat above thirty shillings due to Mr. *Thompson*. I have forgot the particular sum, but if I misremember not, it was thirty-two shillings: but as for Mr. *Faithorne*, I never made any bargain for more than twelve pound, nor did he at first mention any more of me. If you have any further commands, you may send it thither by the post, I suppose, if not to be left for me at *Gresham* college, from whence I receive letters usually once a week. I am still at *Durdens*, my lord *Berkley*'s house near *Epsom*, where Dr. *W.* only remains, Sir *W. P.* being gone to *Salisbury*. My service, I beseech you, Sir, to Mr. *Crosse* and his lady, and to Dr. *Lower*, if in *Oxford*.

Most Honoured SIR, *Durdens, Sept.* 26, 1665.

I WAS a little troubled at the miscarriage of my last letter, and so much the more, because I could not till now find an opportunity of repeating my request I therein made. I did therein, as I remember, send an account of some trials I had then newly made in a well not far from us, which, upon measuring, I found to be no less than three hundred and fifteen feet in its perpendicular depth, though that was short also of the depth, that I was assured it was of, before it had been filled up by timber, stones, and other rubbish; for the owner of it affirmed it to be no less than seventy fathoms deep by measure, or four hundred and twenty feet, so that it seems no less than a hundred feet is filled with rubbish, at least it is stopped by some cross timber, which I rather suspect, because that I found the weights to be stayed by them, if I suffered them to descend below that depth. One of the experiments I tried in it was that of gravity, which upon accurate trial I found to succeed altogether as the former, whereof I gave you an account before. I tried also an experiment in it with four large candles, lighted and placed at a convenient distance, one from another, in sockets fastened on a board for that purpose. The issue was, that they burnt very freely, and blazed, till they had descended about two hundred and forty feet from the top, where they suddenly began to grow dim, and quickly after went out all together, as if suddenly quenched or extinguished by their sinking into a damp; which if so, the damp must be no less than threescore feet deep. I was not then able to repeat the experiment, by reason of the loss of those candles by an unlucky accident before I had got up the line; nor have not since had time, but I purpose, God willing, shortly the further prosecution of it, together with a long series of experiments, which I have thought on, it being such an opportunity, as is scarce to be met with

in

in any other place I know. I have in my catalogue already thought on divers experiments of heat and cold, of gravity and levity, of condenſation and rarefaction of preſſure, of pendulous motions and motions of deſcent; of ſound, of reſpiration, of fire, and burning, of the riſing of ſmoke, of the nature and conſtitution of the damp, both as to heat and cold, drineſs and moiſture, denſity and rarity, and the like. And I doubt not but ſome few trials will ſuggeſt multitude of others, which I have not yet thought of; eſpecially if we can by any means make it ſafe for a man to be let down to the bottom. I ſhould very gladly receive from you, if it be not too great a trouble, a catalogue of ſuch experiments, as you ſhall think fit to be tried to it, which was indeed the chief buſineſs of my laſt ſcribble. I am going ſhortly for a little while into the *Iſle of Wight*, and ſo perhaps may not till my return be able to make thoſe trials; but I ſuppoſe the winter will not afford leſs inſtructive experiments than the other. And therefore what you ſhall pleaſe to ſuggeſt now will not come too late for winter experiments, eſpecially if I can give order for making ready an apparatus for them before I take my journey, which I ſhall be able to do, if by the return of this bearer you pleaſe to ſend them to,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt faithful ſervant,

ROB. HOOKE.

Moſt Honoured SIR, *Greſham College, February* 3, 1666.

I DID by my laſt letter, which I ſent to you from *Durdens*, acquaint you with my laſt trials, which I made in the deep wells, which were indeed ſo conſiderable, that I have many times ſince wiſhed, that I could have another opportunity of examining them further. Whether that and another I ſent not long before came to your hands, I now begin to doubt, being aſſured, that many other letters, which I ſent from *Epſom* to be delivered at the poſt-houſe, in that time of confuſion, miſcarried, eſpecially ſince Mr. *Oldenburg* tells me, that you have intimated to him, that it is much longer ſince you have received any from me. I am ſomewhat troubled, indeed, that my laſt did miſcarry, if it has ſo, becauſe therein I had ſet down, whilſt they were freſh in my memory, moſt of the particulars, which I thought moſt obſervable in thoſe trials. The ſum of which, if I miſremember not, was this; that the air at the bottom of the well was exceeding hot, when the air above was ſo very cold, that every thing froze immediately almoſt; ſo that, notwithſtanding the great increaſe of preſſure at that depth, yet the air in the inſtrument we let down for that purpoſe was abundantly much more rarified at the bottom, than it was before we had let it down, and after we had pulled it up. Another thing, which was not leſs obſervable, was, that all the glaſs veſſels we let down into the well were, when we pulled them up, all covered over very thick with great drops of dew or water, ſo that from one of the bottles, I believe, ſeveral ſpoonfuls might have been collected; and notwithſtanding this, the hygroſcope I let down at the ſame time manifeſted, that the air at the bottom was exceeding much drier than it was at the top; the candles, which we divers times tried, went out much about the ſame depth always; and ſometimes, by ſuddenly pulling them up about half a dozen fathom, they would rekindle, and burn afreſh. We found but little difference between the time, that wooden and leaden bullets deſcended this ſpace; nor could I ſenſibly diſtinguiſh, that there was any difference between the reſounding echo from the bottom, and the like echo from an horizontal wall equally diſtant upon the ground, though the return were very much ſtronger,

ſtronger, but more confuſed by the greatneſs of the noiſe. The weather was ſo very cold, when we made theſe experiments, that made us haſten then ſo much the more; and I have not ſince had an opportunity to repeat them, though, God willing, I intend to make many other of the like kind, either there or elſewhere, ſome time this ſummer; and I have great hopes of having an opportunity of examining both greater depths and much greater heights, in ſome of our *Engliſh* mines, and ſome of the mountains in *Wales*, which, with ſome other good company, I deſign to viſit this next ſummer. Mr. *Tillotſon* has a very young child, which, from the ſwelling of the joints, ſome imagine to have the rickets; and, upon my naming of your ens Veneris, he has much deſired me to procure him ſome of it. I would deſire therefore in your next, that you would be pleaſed to direct me, where I may meet with ſome of it, that is good and well made, that I may procure for him. I am now making a collection of natural rarities, and hope, within a ſhort time, to get as good as any have been yet made in the world, through the bounty of ſome of the noble-minded perſons of the Royal Society. I hope we ſhall have again a meeting, within this week or fortnight at fartheſt, there being now a ſufficient number of our members in town; and then I hope we ſhall proſecute experiments and obſervations much more vigorouſly; in order to which alſo I deſign, God willing, very ſpeedily to make me an operatory, which I deſign to furniſh with inſtruments and engines of all kinds, for making examinations of the nature of bodies, optical, chemical, mechanical, *&c.* and therein to proceed by ſuch a method, as may, I hope, ſave me much labour, charge, and ſtudy; and in this deſign there will be ſome two or three others, that will join with me, who, I hope, are of the ſame mind with me. But I much forget myſelf, to trouble you, Sir, with theſe my impertinencies, before they are completed; though, when they are ſo, I muſt beg, that you will ſend a word or two of directions (concerning ſome chemical operations and methods) to,

Moſt honoured Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

Honoured Sir, *March* 21, 1665-6.

THIS account having had the honour to be very well approved in the Royal Society, though the experiments contained in it are no other than what I have formerly acquainted you with, yet there being ſomewhat of new hypotheſis, and giving ſome account of the apparatus which is now preparing for the trial of thoſe experiments, and ſomewhat likewiſe of the main drift of them, I have added them to this ſcribble. Mr. *Tillotſon* returns his humble ſervice for the ens Veneris you were pleaſed to promiſe him, but I have ſince procured him ſome very good here in town, which has ſerved the turn ſo, that I ſhall give you no further trouble concerning it. I have given Mr. *Shortgrave* directions for making of a wheel baroſcope for you by a new way, which is much more facile than the former, both in making, filling, and rectifying. He ſhews me likewiſe ſome braſs pipes, which if they be for injection, or transfuſion of blood, they would be ſomewhat better to have ſmall protuberances left at the end, that they may not ſlip out of the veſſel, when they are tied on to it; but knowing not the deſigns of them, I could not direct him. I very much rejoice to hear of your return to theſe parts, and am glad you have made choice of this end of the town: the place I was lately to ſee, and believe it to be a very good air; it is pleaſant, private, and there is a very good neighbourhood, and it is not full three miles from hence, all over pleaſant fields. I do not hear of the death of any of your

workmen ſave Mr. *Thompſon*, and Mr. *Shaw* the founder; and here are others of the ſame trade good workmen. I thought to have conveyed this by Dr. *Wren*, who is this day gone for *Oxford*, but I was hindered by company this morning. He has ſomething worth your peruſal; amongſt the reſt a relation of *China*, new and very good of its kind, though it contain not much of philoſophical information till towards the latter end, much of which ſeems to be tranſcribed from others. Two or three leaves I have turned down in it on ſuch things as I met with remarkable. But I have already given you too much trouble, and therefore beg your pardon. I am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt faithful ſervant,

R. HOOKE.

OUR collections of rarities at *Greſham* college is now very well worth your peruſal, and I hope to increaſe it every day. We had yeſterday a very full meeting here of the Society, and I hope a greater the next week. I am very glad to hear, that you have a ſixty feet teleſcope; certainly it may help us to many good diſcoveries, if it be well made uſe of. I did the laſt week ſee an elliptical glaſs, which in truth did ſomething extraordinary, and more than I had ſeen before; and I expect ſhortly to ſee much better.

GRAVITY, though it ſeems to be one of the moſt active principles in the world, and conſequently ought to be the more conſiderable, has yet had the ill fate to have been alway till of late eſteemed otherwiſe, even to ſlighting and neglect. But the inquiſitiveneſs of this latter age has begun to find ſufficient arguments to entertain other thoughts of it. *Gilbert* began to imagine it a magnetical attractive principle inherent in the parts of the terreſtrial globe. The noble *Verulam* alſo in part embraced this opinion. But *Kepler* (not without good reaſon) makes it a property inherent in all celeſtial bodies, ſun, ſtars, planets: this ſuppoſition we may afterwards more particularly examine. But firſt it will be requiſite to conſider, whether this gravitating power be inherent in the parts of the earth; and if ſo, whether it be magnetical, electrical, or of ſome other nature diſtinct from either.

IF it be magnetical, any body attracted by it ought to gravitate more when nearer its ſurface, than when farther off. To examine which propriety ſeveral trials have been made both on the higher parts of *Weſtminſter* abbey, and alſo at the top of St. *Paul*'s ſteeple: but though in the making of them, I endeavoured to be as accurate as the way was capable of, I tried it by; (which way by counterpoiſing a heavy ſolid body, and as much braſs wire as would ſerve to let down that body from the top to the bottom of the building; and then poiſing thoſe equilibrated bodies, firſt whilſt the ſolid body and wire were in the ſcale at the top, and afterwards by poiſing them likewiſe when the body was let down almoſt to the bottom by the wire, whoſe upper end was faſtened to the ſcale at the top;) yet ſuch were the inconveniencies this wire was ſubject to from the vibrations of ſo long a line, and from the motion of the interpoſed air, that nothing of certainty could be collected from theſe trials, ſave only, that if there were any difference in the gravitation of the body, it was but very ſmall and inconſiderable. Since I found in the trials made from the top of the abbey, that a few grains put into this or that ſcale would manifeſtly turn the beam this or that way, notwithſtanding the former inconveniencies. But to diſtinguiſh, whether there be any the leaſt variety, muſt be attempted ſome other way, of which by and by.

NEXT,

NEXT, if all the parts of the terreſtrial globe be magnetical, then a body at a conſiderable depth below the ſurface of the earth ſhould loſe ſomewhat of its gravitation, or endeavour downwards by the attraction of the parts of the earth placed above it. This opinion ſome experiments made by ſome worthy perſons of this honourable Society ſeem to countenance. But conſidering the vaſt proportion of the decreaſe of gravity at ſo ſmall a depth, it ſeemed not improbable, but that the motion of the air, or ſome other unheeded accident, might intervene in theſe experiments, which might much contribute thereunto. For the trial of which I had a great deſire; and happily meeting with ſome conſiderable deep wells near *Banſtead Downs*, in *Surry*, I endeavoured to make them with as much exactneſs and circumſpection as I was able: my firſt trials were, a well of about fifteen fathom deep, or ninety feet; the thread I made uſe of was about fourſcore feet long. The bodies I weighed by it were braſs, wood, ſtone, each of which at ſeveral times I counterpoiſed exactly, and hung the ſcales, which were very good ones, over the midſt of the well, ſo as the packthread might hang clear down to the bottom without touching the ſides: the effects were theſe, that each of theſe bodies ſeemed to keep exactly the ſame gravity at the bottom and top. For trying it when the air was ſtill and calm, I found, that the weight of a grain would eaſily turn the ſcales either way, according as it was put into the one or the other ſcale; which exactneſs of equipollency in the ſcales I found, both before I let down the body by the thread, when they were ſo let down, and after they were again drawn up. So that it ſeemed manifeſt, that about a pound weight, either of wood, flint, or braſs, by being placed fourſcore feet either nearer or farther from the centre of the earth, did not vary its weight more than a grain, that is, not more than a 7680 part of its weight, by having fourſcore feet of earth ſituate about it, whereas the other experiments make it loſe near a ſixteenth part in depth not much greater.

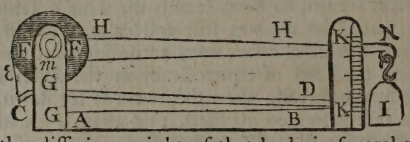
THIS experiment I afterwards tried with the like circumſpection in a well of near threeſcore fathoms deep, where the weight, though ſuſpended at the end of a ſtring of about three hundred and thirty feet long, ſeemed to continue of the ſame weight, that it had above, both before it was let down, and after it was pulled up. For the beam of the balance, though very tender, did in all theſe trials keep as to ſenſe exactly its horizontal parallelism or equilibration; ſo that this opinion, how probable ſoever it might ſeem to *Gilbert*, *Verulam*, and divers other learned men, is not at all favoured by the experiments made in theſe wells; whether from the peculiar nature of the earth about theſe wells (which was too pretty ſolid chalk) or from ſome other cauſe, I determine not, till further experiment manifeſt it.

BUT in truth upon the conſideration of the nature of the theory, we may find, that ſuppoſing it true, that all the conſtituent parts of the earth had a magnetical power, the decreaſe of gravity would be almoſt a hundred times leſs than a grain to a pound, at as great a depth as fifty fathom; for if we conſider the proportion of the parts of the earth placed upon one ſide beneath the ſtone, with the parts on the other ſide above it, we may find the diſproportion greater. Unleſs we ſuppoſe the magnetiſm of the parts to act but at a very little diſtance, which I think the experiments made on the abbey and St. *Paul*'s will not allow of. If therefore there be any ſuch inequality of gravity, we muſt have ſome ways of trial much more accurate than this of ſcales, of which I ſhall propound two ſorts, which (if any ſuch difference be) ſeem capable of diſtinguiſhing and finding it out. The firſt is by the motion of a ſwing clock; for if the attraction of the earth towards its centre be leſs, the farther the body is placed below or above its ſurface, then the motion of ſuch a watch muſt be ſlower there than on the ſurface. And though perhaps the difference be ſo ſmall, as

not to be ſenſible at one, ten, or a hundred vibrations in many thouſands of them, it will not be difficult to find it. But a clock for this purpoſe ought to be ſealed up exactly in a glaſs, ſo that no air may have any intercourſe with it; otherwiſe the changes of it may perhaps be rather aſcribable to the air, which is evidently of a differing conſtitution. And by this means, which I look upon as the moſt exact, I could wiſh, that trial were made at the top and bottom of ſome very high hill, that ſo by the differing velocity of the clock at the top of the hill from that at the bottom, we might be able to judge, whether there be any ſuch variation of gravity; and, if ſuch, whether it be analogous to the attraction of the magnet.

THE other inſtrument for this purpoſe may be ſome ſuch as this deſcribed in the adjoining figure, which ought alſo to be well fortified againſt the mutations of the ambient air; otherwiſe in ſo nice an experiment nothing can be done.

A B, a frame, to which is faſtened C D, a ſpring from the end of which C a thread C E is faſtened to a ſmall wheel F F, which moves on a very ſharp edge in the hole m. To the other ſide of this wheel is faſtened a ſmall long beam H H, reaching beyond the frame A B, namely to N, to which a weight of a convenient bigneſs I being faſtened, and the inſtrument carefully conveyed from place to place. The end of the beam will ſhew upon the divided pillar K K, the differing weight of that body in ſeveral places.



Now becauſe the deſign of both theſe experiments are to find out a difference of gravitation, if there be any to the end, that comparing them with the attraction of the loadſtone, we may the better judge of this ſuppoſition; it will therefore be requiſite to make ſeveral experiments on a good magnet, for the finding out of the decreaſe of the force of its attractive power upon a body, according as it is placed at greater and greater diſtances, or according as it is further and further placed within the hollow of a terrella, for which I have contrived and deſign to make an appropriate inſtrument. Now theſe experiments, as they are wholly new, being not attempted that I know by any hitherto, no magnetical writer that I have met with having taken any notice of it; and as the magnet affords many helps towards the finding out the nature of the magnet, and the laws and reaſons of divers other motions; ſo if this analogy between the decreaſe of attraction of the one, and gravitation of the other, be found real, we may perhaps, by the help of the loadſtone, as it were epitomiſe all the experiments of gravity, and determine, to what diſtance the gravitating power of the earth acts, and explicate perhaps divers other phænomena of nature by ways not yet thought of.

Honourable SIR, *Greſham College, Sept.* 5, 1667.

WE have had ſo little worth communicating ſince your departure, that I have hitherto forborn to give you the trouble of a letter; and the buſineſs indeed of this paper is nothing but to expreſs my ſervice and duty. For moſt of the Society being out of town, we have for ſome weeks omitted our meetings, and ſo there has been nothing done at *Arundel* houſe. And the heat of the weather, till of late, has been ſuch, that I could not proceed with the experiment of the air-box, though, upon my next attempting of it, I deſpair not of bringing it to a good iſſue, which the coldneſs of the weather, and the meeting of ſeveral of the Society every *Thurſday* in the afternoon at my chamber, will now ſpeedily put me upon. There will be, I doubt not, very many noble experiments diſcovered by it, of which I have conceived a good number. And I hope likewiſe to add one contrivance more to this enquiry, and

and that is, to be able to do the ſame things in the open air, which can be done in the box, without any danger to him, that ſhall aſcend into the air; which contrivance, if I can perfect, will be of great uſe upon many other accounts. I was lately informed of a very pretty experiment of reducing the whey and curds of a poſſet back again into milk, by the nature of a certain liquor. I doubt not at all of the truth of the experiment; but I do not yet certainly know the liquor, with which it is done. I queſtion not, but that you will eaſily find many that will do it; I have not, I confeſs, myſelf had any time to make enquiry after it ſince. I have, upon ſome trials, found a liquor, that does brighten ſteel, and extract a blood-red tincture from it, which has neither the ill taſte nor ſmell of other ſolutions of that metal. I believe the tincture may be of good uſe in phyſic, as well as the brightening of ſteel will be to mechanics. I ſuppoſe you have heard before this from Mr. *Oldenburg*, who is got out of limbo, and now again breathes and enjoys the free air. He will not, I hope, leave off his philoſophical intelligence. I hope this peace will reduce all things again into order, and be a means likewiſe of haſtening your return to *London*, where you are very much expected and wiſhed for. I hope I ſhall prevail upon Dr. *Lower*, and for him, ſo as to get him anatomical curator to the Society. He has moſt incomparable diſcoveries by him on that ſubject, and a moſt dexterous hand in diſſecting. Some of his diſcoveries I underſtand will be publiſhed in the next edition of Dr. *Willis*'s book *De Cerebro*. Political news I doubt not but you underſtand from better intelligence. I am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful humble ſervant,

ROB. HOOKE.

THERE were about half a ſcore of the Society met at my chamber this afternoon, where we had ſome diſcourſe of philoſophical matters, to keep the memory of that ſubject alive. I have lately contrived a new way of wheel work for clocks, watches, *&c.* which I think does much excel all the ways yet known: and indeed I think it the very perfection of wheel work, and capable of the higheſt perfection, that can be expected in that kind. There has been nothing like it yet practiſed. Many other things I long to be at, but I do extremely want time.

Mr. JOHN ELIOT *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Right Honourable, *Roxburg, Auguſt* 26, 1664.

I AM but a ſhrub in the wilderneſs, and have not yet had the boldneſs to look upon, or ſpeak unto thoſe cedars, who have undertaken an honourable protection of us. But for ſundry reaſons, I have now broke out, and have taken upon me the boldneſs to write unto yourſelf, right honourable Sir, becauſe I do ſufficiently underſtand, how learning and honour do rendezvous in your noble breaſt; and what a true friend you are to all learning, and alſo to this good work of the Lord, in promoting religion, and the knowledge of Chriſt among our poor *Indians*.

I do humbly preſent my thankfulneſs to yourſelf, noble governor, and all the reſt of your honourable ſociety, for your favourable protection and diligent promotion of this work, which otherwiſe might have been ſunk and buried before this day; but by your vigilance and prudence, noble Sir, it is not only kept in being, but in a ſtate of flouriſhing acceptation with his majeſty, and other great peers of the land; which favour of yours, Chriſtian duty doth oblige me to acknowledge.

I AM

I AM bold to preſent ſome things to the honourable corporation (according as I am adviſed) by the hand of my Chriſtian friend, Mr. *Aſhurſt*. What doth more immediately concern learning, I crave the boldneſs to make mention of unto yourſelf. You are pleaſed to intimate unto me a memorandum of your deſires, that there may be a grammar of our *Indian* language compoſed, for public and after uſe, which motion, as I doubt not but it ſpringeth from yourſelf, ſo my anſwer unto yourſelf about it will be moſt proper. I and my ſons have often ſpoken of it. But now I take your intimation as a command to ſet about it. When I have finiſhed the tranſlation of the *Practice of Piety*, my purpoſe is, if the Lord will, and that I do live, to ſet upon ſome eſſay and beginning of reducing this language into rule; which, in the moſt common and uſeful points, I do ſee, is reducible; though there be corners, and anomalities full of difficulty to be reduced under any ſtated rule, as yourſelf know better than I, it is in all languages. I have not ſo much either inſight or judgment, as to dare to undertake any thing worthy the name of a grammar; only ſome preparatory collections that way tending, which may be of no ſmall uſe unto ſuch as may be ſtudious to learn this language, I deſire, if God will, to take ſome pains in. But this is a work for the morrow; to-day my work is tranſlation, which, by the Lord's help, I deſire to attend unto. And thus, with my humble thankfulneſs, I ſhall ceaſe to give you any further trouble at preſent, but, commending you unto the Lord, and to the word of his grace, I remain,

Right honourable,

yours in all ſervice I can in Chriſt Jeſus,

JOHN ELIOT.

Letters from Dr. RALPH CUDWORTH *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *May* 27, 1664.

UNDERSTANDING a while ſince by Sir *William Morrice*, that you were pleaſed to expreſs your approbation and good opinion of a ſmall pamphlet of mine long ago publiſhed, concerning the Lord's Supper, and (as I apprehended him) that you wanted a copy of it; though my own were long ſince all diſperſed, yet I procured this of a friend, to preſent to you; deſiring you to accept it as a ſmall expreſſion of my thankfulneſs to you, for thoſe many worthy and learned works of yours, both philoſophical and theological, with which you have obliged the public; in which both your ſingular piety and tranſcendent learning doth appear. And, beſeeching God to proſper your ſtudies and endeavours, that you may further enrich the world with more ſuch learned monuments, I remain,

SIR,

your moſt humbly devoted ſervant,

RA. CUDWORTH.

Honoured SIR, *October* 16, 1684.

I AM extremely ſenſible of my obligation to you for your great civility, in ſending me this, and other of your learned works before. I do aſſure you, Sir, I have a very great value for them; and the age, and world is much beholding to you. I wiſh with all my heart, you would get thoſe, which are not already, all tranſlated into *Latin*, and printed in folio together. Then, what you ſhall ſuperadd will be eaſily collected and added afterward. And I pray God continue your life and health, that

that you may ſtill enrich the world with more. The writers of hypotheſes in natural philoſophy will be confuting one another, a long time, before the world will agree, if ever it do. But your pieces of natural hiſtory are unconfutable, and will afford the beſt grounds to build hypotheſes upon. You have much outdone Sir *Francis Bacon*, in your natural experiments, and you have not inſinuated any thing, as he is thought to have done, tending to irreligion, but the contrary. My good friend, Dr. *G.* ſeemed to have taken his Life of *Matt.* from the lord *Verulam.* With the renewal of my thanks, I ſhall always remain,

SIR,

your moſt obliged, and
moſt humbly devoted ſervant,
R. CUDWORTH.

Letters from Mr. SEAMAN *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *London, Oct.* 5, 1664.

UPON your honour's laying down your intention of printing that part of the New Teſtament, which I had tranſlated, I made Mr. *Diggs* acquainted with it, unto whom I had before communicated the printing thereof; but he would not hear of laying it down, encouraging me to go forward with it: ſo that he having not only largely ſubſcribed himſelf, but alſo taken much pains in getting ſubſcriptions, to help to ſupport my charge, I have undertaken to print the whole New Teſtament, not doubting, but while that, which I have already done, is in the preſs, I ſhall be able to tranſlate and prepare the reſt; being reſolved to ſpend my time in this work, that ſo (if it pleaſe the Lord to ſpare my life and health) I may go through with it. I have here incloſed ſent your honour the propoſitions, upon which I am engaged; and what money is ſubſcribed and paid, I am to give a proportionable number of copies for; and the reſt of the copies I ſhall have towards my pains herein; and if they yield me any thing conſiderable, I ſhall thereby be better enabled to ſpend more of my time (if the Lord lengthen out my life) in works of this nature.

IN the way, that it is in, there is no queſtion, but the books will be generally diſperſed; the chief number of ſubſcribers being merchants trading into *Turky*; and that I know was one chief thing your honour aimed at: and I know your goodneſs is ſuch, that you will be well pleaſed, that I am like to have any encouragement by it. I do hereby humbly tender the premiſes to your honour, and ſhall very thankfully acknowledge it, if you pleaſe, by ſubſcription, to help forward this work in my hands. I thought it my duty to give you an account of this tranſaction under my own hand. So with the preſentation of my humble ſervice, I remain, and reſt,

your honour's moſt humble ſervant,
WILL. SEAMAN.

Honourable SIR, *London, Oct.* 19, 1664.

MR. *Clarke* writeth me, you deſire to know what encouragement I have. The propoſitions I ſent your honour, I communicated only to Mr. *Diggs*, the merchant, who hath gotten the governor of the *Turky* company to ſubſcribe, with other *Turky* merchants, about an hundred pounds already; and the governor told me, that, when it hath gone through more hands, if it be not ſufficient, they will go over again; and if it were not, that they deſign to help in the printing of my Lexicon, they would have

have contributed to this, as a company, out of their ſtock. I humbly return thanks to your honour for what Mr. *Clarke* writeth me, you will be pleaſed to do in it: if that I have from merchants, with what your honour ſubſcribeth, defray not the whole charge, I ſhall, God willing, make up what it wanteth myſelf. This account being, what I have at preſent to tender to you, in anſwer to the aboveſaid, deſiring the Lord to preſerve your health, and ſafely to return you to theſe parts, I remain, and reſt,

your honour's moſt humble ſervant,

WILL. SEAMAN.

Honourable SIR,

I THOUGHT fit to certify your honour, that I went ſome time ſince to the *Dutch* miniſter, to know Mr. *De Gheer*'s mind, whether he were willing to tranſmit his *Turkiſh* tranſlation of the Old Teſtament into *England*, if ſo be the charge of the printing of it might be borne upon ſubſcriptions to be procured here. To which the *Dutch* miniſter replied, that Mr. *De Gheer* is not willing to ſend it into *England*, in regard it may be printed at leſs charge in *Holland*; but if it ſhall pleaſe any gentlemen in *England* to ſubſcribe any conſiderable ſum of money towards the printing of it, he will go in hand with it there, and they ſhall not pay the money they ſubſcribe, until they have their number of copies ſubſcribed for, delivered into their hands. Upon this, they deſire to know, what your honour will pleaſe to ſubſcribe towards the printing of it there. I promiſed to wait upon your honour in it; but not having had my health ſo well as to venture ſo far, I am fain at preſent to take this way to do it, humbly deſiring your honour, that by any of your ſervants hands, you will ſignify by two or three lines, whether or no your honour pleaſe to ſubſcribe any thing towards the printing thereof in *Holland*. With my humble ſervice preſented to you, I take leave to reſt

your honour's moſt humble,

and affectionate ſervant,

WILL. SEAMAN.

FROM my houſe in *Middle-Moorfields*, *London*, at the lower end of *Whitecroſs-Alley*, the firſt day of *May*, 1683.

Letters from Dr. MORE *to Mr.* BOYLE.

SIR, *Chriſt Church College*, *June* 5, 1665.

I RECEIVED your excellent Treatiſe of Cold a good while ſince, but deferred to return my thanks, that, upon the peruſal thereof, I might be enabled to do it the more amply. But my occaſions have been, and ſtill are, ſuch, that I cannot yet give myſelf that full pleaſure of thoroughly peruſing ſo ſingular a treatiſe, and of ſo ſelect a ſubject. But ſo far as I have gone, I am ſure it affords extraordinary delight to the reader, and is no ways unworthy of ſo illuſtrious an author. Sir, you will infinitely oblige poſterity, by the records of your ſo faithful and multifarious experiments, which you have tranſmitted to them in your ſeveral writings. They certainly are of far greater conſequence, as your laſt has but juſtly taken notice, than the framing of any haſty hypotheſes, though witty, and, within ſome circuit of conſiderations, pretty coherent. *Opinionum commenta delet dies*, *naturæ judicia confirmat*; it is the ſaying of *Cicero* ſomewhere, but an undoubted prognoſtic of a durable honour done to your

your name, whose repute with posterity must have no such firm foundation, than the constancy of nature, of which your writings will now find so true a copy, as that future appeals will be made to them amongst the learned, as to the judicature of nature herself. This is the due acknowledgment, that all the world owes you, but none can make more readily and willingly than,

Honoured Sir,

your most humble, and

affectionate friend and servant,

H. MORE.

SIR, *Christ Church College, Nov.* 27, 1665.

I HAVE forborn all this while to return you thanks for your kind acceptance of that small signification of that respect and honour I have for your person and virtues; because, till within a few days ago, I had no information of the affair that was in the subject of the inclosed letter. But now I can tell you, with what great thankfulness Mr. *Fulwood* does embrace the terms specified in your letter, and also how glad his brother, my acquaintance, now in the town, is of this opportunity given to his brother, the physician (for that is his employment) to improve himself under so excellent and knowing a person. When you have use for him, if you please to send me word, he shall have notice of it, and wait upon you. I am much obliged to you for your favourable judgment touching my idea. If any thing like you thus by pieces, I know you will find a new pleasure in considering the congruity of the whole; but most of all, if your leisure and patience will ever permit you to peruse my Synopsis also, and compare it with the idea. What you conceive of so free speaking and writing, that it is likely to procure me many adversaries, I am not only of the same opinion, but have the certain knowledge and experience of it; and may very likely find the effect of it in a rude manner this very day; Dr. *Sparrow* visiting us this afternoon: but knowing so well what is at the bottom, I shall, I hope, bear cheerfully whatever he is able to do against me. For I heard one say, that he protested he would prosecute my opinions as long as he lived. And what opinions nettle him and Mr. *Thorndikele* most, is not hard to conjecture. I must confess, it is very hard for me to suppress my zeal for the protestant religion; and I thank God it is so. You see how the case stands with me, and therefore you will excuse me, if I abruptly take leave to subscribe myself,

Honoured Sir,

your most humble,

and affectionate servant,

H. MORE.

SIR, I heartily thank you, for your care in directing me to so excellent a medicine, as you specify in your note, against my quartan; but my quartan, as it happened, was cured by this diatrion, fasting, sack, and mathematics; especially *Oughtred*'s *Clavis*: of this more when we meet. If they out me out of *Christ College*, my abode will be more at *London*.

Honoured SIR, *Christ-Church College, Dec.* 4.

MR. *Foxcroft* being at my chambers yesterday, and acquainting me so explicitly how you have taken offence at what concerns you in my *Enchiridion Metaphysicum*, it has quickened me to do that, which I was sometimes thinking to do, since I saw you

laſt. For I had ſome ſuch inklings before now. But when I was with you, you ſeemed not to be concerned for yourſelf, but for *Des Cartes*. I ſhall now briefly anſwer as touching both. And truly, whatever I have writ in that book, touching *Des Cartes*, I confeſs, I have not the leaſt diſlike of it, it being ſo exceeding requiſite for me to do as I did. I have, from my very firſt letters to *Des Cartes*, till this laſt book of mine, always expreſſed my opinion, that this mechanical way would not hold in all phænomena, as I always verily thought: but this would not ſave us from being accounted amongſt the wits, one of their gang; and a perfect *Carteſian*, as to the hypotheſis; and, indeed, no leſs than an infidel and atheiſt. And I was informed out of *Holland*, from a learned hand there, that a conſiderable company of men appeared there, mere ſcoffers at religion, and atheiſtical, that profeſſed themſelves *Carteſians:* and that his philoſophy may naturally have ſuch an influence as this, I can neither deny, nor could conceal in my preface to this book; for it had been to the prejudice of religion, and to my great reproach, for me, who have been, from my youth to this very day, ſo open a ſtickler for the ſupport of natural religion, and for Chriſtianity itſelf, in the beſt mode thereof, to be found of ſo little judgment, as not to diſcern, how prejudicial *Des Cartes*'s mechanical pretenſions are to the belief of a God. Certainly, all thoſe of the atheiſtical party, that have obſerved my zeal in the behalf of religion, in almoſt all my writings, muſt, as once I heard a known phyſician ſay of them of our profeſſion, that God Almighty has ſent none but a company of fools upon his errand, take me to be one of the chief of them; or think me a juggler and deceiver, I not declaring againſt that philoſophy, which is the pillar of many of thoſe men's infidelity, and of their atheiſm; and it is not a week ago, ſince I ſaw a letter, that informed me, that *Spinoſa*, a *Jew* firſt, after a *Carteſian*, and now an atheiſt, is ſuppoſed the author of *Theologico-Politicus*. I ſuppoſe, you may have ſeen the book. Wherefore what could I have done leſs, than declare my ſenſe of the *Carteſian* philoſophy, and vindicate myſelf from the imputation of ſo fond a blindneſs, as not to be aware of the danger of that philoſophy, if it be credited; and, which is beſt of all, to put it quite out of credit, in that ſenſe I oppoſe it, by demonſtrating the great weakneſs thereof, in its pretences of ſolving, though but the eaſieſt and ſimpleſt phænomena, merely mechanically? which, I think, I have done irrefutably, nay, I am unſpeakably confident of it: and have therewithal ever and anon plainly demonſtrated the neceſſity of incorporeal beings; which is a deſign, than which nothing can be more ſeaſonable in this age; wherein the notion of a ſpirit is ſo hooted at by ſo many for nonſenſe. This yet I am very confident in myſelf, I have proved over and over again, by invincible arguments, to be no figment in this diſcourſe: which, whatever the opinions of other men are, is a ſatisfaction to my own mind, which I value more than any thing this world can afford me. And if in a compliment to *Des Cartes*, I ſhould not have taken my full ſtroke at this daring monſter, that ſtruts thus confidently in this preſent degenerate age, I had been perfidious to the church of God, and to the kingdom of his ſon Jeſus Chriſt; whom, however I compliment others, I am bound to the utmoſt of my power really and cordially to ſerve.

AND truly I expected, that all, whoſe hearts are ſeriouſly ſet upon God and religion, would give me hearty thanks for my pains: but, however, my reward is with him, that ſet me on work: and as I do not doubt, but my diſcourſe is firm and ſtrong from the beginning to the end, ſaving in ſome few miſtakes, which were no errors of my judgment (as that quotation in the margin of the preface, pag. 3, where it ſhould be part 2, art. 21; and pag. 218, line 11, where it ſhould be, *quam dimidium ejus, quod globuli occupant*; and line 13, *ſpacium ille dimidium*, for ſo it was in my *Engliſh*

Eſſay; but I was mindleſs in the tranſlating of it, and the context plainly ſhews it muſt be ſo) ſo had I had a very great ſatisfaction in my performance, had I not had the ill hap to give offence to that incomparable perſon Mr. *Boyle*; which, I profeſs, I could not foreſee, doing no other thing to him, than what, if it were done to myſelf, I ſhould take no offence at; and therefore I could not perceive aforehand, what would be the event, having acted according to the royal law of equity; which might well make me careleſs of imparting to him my purpoſe in that matter; and the experiments of his, which I drew into my diſcourſe, they were of that excellent importance for the deſign of my book, and the demonſtration of the grand point in hand, that I could not by any means omit them, having mentioned them alſo in ſeveral places of my writings, as a main pledge of the tenets I ſo much contend for; that the phænomena of the world cannot be ſolved merely mechanically, but that there is the neceſſity of the aſſiſtance of a ſubſtance diſtinct from matter, that is, of a ſpirit, or being incorporeal, as I muſt confeſs, I do conceive myſelf moſt firmly to have concluded from theſe experiments; for which I ever hold the world and myſelf obliged to you: and though there be an infinite diſparity betwixt your experience and experimenting and mine, yet I did preſume, for thoſe few I did conſider, that I might thoroughly underſtand them ſo far as concerned my purpoſe, and make ſafe uſe of them: and if I be miſtaken in my inference from them, as to the main, I am ſo groſly and unexpectedly diſappointed by my reaſon, that I ſhall never hereafter truſt mine own, or any one's elſe ſubtil reaſonings in philoſophy; but altogether endeavour after as perfect innocency as I can; and then I hope my ſoul in the other world will be gathered to the good, whoſoever's are gathered to the wiſe. But I was ſo tranſported and warmed with the light and clarity of my reaſonings in this diſcourſe, that I hope, if in ſo full a career of heat and zeal for the main points I labour for, any thing has happened, that may ſeem leſs diſcreet, your great candour and Chriſtianity will eaſily pardon it; and that ſo great and virtuous a ſoul, that is acquainted with ſuch ſentiments of the mind, as infinitely ſurpaſs all notions and ſpeculations, that are not ſubſervient to that end, will not think himſelf damnified, if other conceptions, that make nothing to that noble end, be aſſaulted by any one; eſpecially, if they appear ſound after the aſſault; and if they do not, yet there is the gain of a new truth if one will, or the loſs of ſuch a victory: ſo little hurt is there in philoſophical oppoſitions amongſt the free and ingenuous! For all things are but fancies, ſaving the life of God in Chriſt, and what tends thereto. And I have found it a great inconvenience to find myſelf vulnerable in any concerns but of that, but a convenience to be wounded by any good hand of providence, which might cauſe me to retreat into what is the beſt; nor let my ſoul out into vanities, and that which profiteth not; which might make this fatal miſtake of mine more grateful, if I could imagine it needful to a perſon ſo excellently accompliſhed. But come it in what circumſtances it will, Sir, I will aſſure, it came from one, that does very highly honour you and love you, and whatever diſpleaſure you may conceive againſt him, is reſolved, whether you will or no, to love you and honour you, and wiſh you all good poſſible, and, in this ſenſe and reſolution, does heartily ſubſcribe himſelf,

Honoured and dear Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt affectionate ſervant,

HEN. MORE.

From Mr. R. BAXTER *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Moſt dear and truly honoured SIR, *June* 14, 1665.

I WILL not accuſe you for tempting me to be proud, by the favour of ſo worthy a perſon as yourſelf, expreſſed in your viſit, and the gift of your many excellent books. For it is no diſhonour to good, that *omne malum eſt ex bono*, nor to God himſelf, that none giveth ſo many occaſions of ſin, whilſt none is ſo far from being the cauſe. But I will rather look back to one of my old leſſons, that our greateſt benefits muſt be received in the moſt timorous watchful poſture. The recreations, which I have oft taken in your experimental philoſophy, and other ſuch writings, are not like thoſe, which ſome men ſeek in cards and ſtage plays, and other murderers of precious time, whoſe fruit is nominally ſome true commodity, and really in hand; ſome unwholeſome ſenſual delight, and finally the ſting of ſorrow, when irrevocable time is gone. But they have been a profitable pleaſure, which prepare not for repentance. But your plea for ſcripture ſtyle, and your Seraphic Loves, and the noble deſigns of your *Arabic* publication of *Grotius*, and now your pious meditations and reflections, do call to me for greater reverence in the reading of them, and make me put off my hat, as if I were in the church; and have not in vain excited me to the expectation of ſome higher benefit, as they ſtand nearer to my ultimate end. I read your theology as the life of your philoſophy, and your philoſophy as animated and dignified by your theology, yea indeed as its firſt part. For God himſelf beginneth the holy ſcriptures with the doctrine of phyſics: and he that will handle the covenant and laws of God, muſt deſcribe firſt the covenanters God and man, the conſtitutive parts of the univerſal kingdom. He that will juſtly frame a panſophy (as *Commenius* calls it) muſt begin with ontology, of which God and man are the parts, which we are moſt concerned to know: and having firſt gone through the doctrine of entities, muſt come down to that of conception, and expreſſion, and action. And he that knoweth, that this is the difference between our knowledge of God in this life and the next, that here is known as in a glaſs, and there by intuition, will neither with the illiterate deſpiſe the glaſs, nor with the atheiſt and prophane, overlook or deny the face which it repreſenteth. Such as theſe laſt I have heard you complain of, and find by your remedies, that you are not unacquainted with the lamentable increaſe of this diſeaſe. I was naturally as much inclined as others, to play with the gilded leaves and outſide of my books, and handſomely depaint the letters before I underſtood the ſenſe: to take up my time in the ſearch of creatures, and words, and circumſtances, and to mortify all theſe by ſeparating them from God! And it was not ſoon enough that I reduced all my learning to the doctrines, *de fine ultimo, & de mediis* practically, and that I ſtudied and eſtimated all the means according to their places and value in their tendency to the end. But when God removed my dwelling into a church-yard, and ſet me to ſtudy bones and duſt, and by a proſpect into another world, awakened my ſoul from the learning of a child, and ſhewed me, that my ſtudies muſt be play, but affective, practical, ſerious works; I then began to be conducted by neceſſity, and to ſearch after truth, but as a means to goodneſs, and to perceive the difference betwixt a pleaſant eaſy dream, and a waking working knowledge. He that hath well learned in the alphabet of his phyſics, wherein a man doth differ from a brute, hath laid ſuch a foundation for a holy life, as all the reaſon in the world is never able to overthrow. For by knowing his faculties and capacities, he will quickly know their end and uſe; and his relations to his Creator, his efficient, dirigent, final cauſe: that his nature was formed to be holy, even to know, and love, and ſerve his Maker, as truly as the lower creatures are formed for our ſervice! That to love God above all,

all, and to ſerve him with all our powers and gifts, is as unqueſtionably the duty of man, as it is the uſe of a horſe to carry us, or of a knife to cut, and much more, becauſe the aptitude and obligation were more eſſential to us: and he will as eaſily know, that all this duty is not to be performed in vain; and that the rectitude, perfection, and uſe of nature, was never intended by our Creator to be our miſery; and therefore that holineſs is the way to happineſs. And as I never met with the infidel, that durſt ſay, that he is certain, that there is no future life of reward and puniſhment; ſo it is moſt eaſy for unprejudiced reaſon to diſcern, that the probability or poſſibility of an endleſs joy or miſery hereafter obligeth us to provide for it, whatever it coſt us in the world! And nature itſelf, by the very revelation of that probability or poſſibility, hath made it every wiſe man's duty to make it the chief care and buſineſs of his life to obtain that happineſs, and eſcape that miſery; and to contemn all the hopes and fears of this world, which ſtand againſt it: and conſequently that he liveth againſt the law of nature, who liveth not a holy life. And then he muſt conclude, that either really there is ſuch a life of happineſs, which we are naturally thus bound to ſeek, and ſuch a danger, which we muſt labour to avoid; or elſe that God hath deceived man in the very frame of his nature, and made both his nobleſt faculties, and the chief duties of his life to be deluſory, fruſtrate, and our torments; and that he loſeth and ſuffereth moſt, who is trueſt to his God and conſcience, which the knowledge of God will eaſily confute. He reproaches his Creator, who ſaith, that he gave man higher faculties than the brutes, to know, and love, and ſerve his God, and this that he might be ſo much more miſerable than the brutes, by his foreſights, labours, and fruſtrations. Beſides what I have oft ſaid, that the world neither ever was or can be governed according to the nature of man, without the fears and hopes of life to come! Were it not for theſe, there would be no law or virtue, but carnal intereſt, craft, and ſtrength: and he were a fool, that could not with probable ſafety murder or undo him, that ſtandeth in his way. It is well for the world, that beaſtly infidels do oft want wit to do miſchiefs, as well as to know the truth: and better yet, that atheiſm ſeldom doth totally preclude their proſpect into another world, and conquer all thoſe fears and hopes, and yet better, that atheiſts have ſeldom the government of the reſt: and that thoſe, that have wit and power enough to do miſchiefs, have uſually the wit to ſee why they ſhould not do it. I ſpoke from my heart, when I told the world, that every man is a ſaint, a brute, or a devil, as he is either holy, ſenſual, or malignant. I thank you therefore for all your books, but moſt for thoſe, which have moſt for God: for, as to the ſubject, that which ſtands next to heaven is beſt: there are my hopes, and that way lie all my buſineſſes and concernments. What a poppet play is the life of ſenſuality, worldlineſs, and pride? And how low a game is it, which emperors and commanders play, who ſeek no higher things in compariſon of a humble Chriſtian, who by the conduct of the word and ſpirit of God, is ſeeking the immortal pleaſures? If theſe be not my happineſs, I ſhall conſent to have no other, much more if they be. Let me have more than this malignant diſtracted world affords, or let me have nothing. Let me be happy longer than ſeventy years, or let me never be happy. How I am eſteemed, or called, or uſed here, for ſo ſhort a time, I deſire to make it but little of my care, nor much to regard, whether ſo ſhort a dream be ſad or pleaſant. He loſeth nothing, that loſeth but this ſhadow: and in the end he will confeſs, he hath got nothing, who hath got no more. If the poſſibility of endleſs joy or miſery prevail not with me againſt all that the world can offer, I will be judge againſt myſelf, and freely confeſs, that by ſinning againſt reaſon, I forfeit all pretenſions to felicity, and if there be hell, it is my due.

THE

THE matter of your book having occaſioned all theſe words, I muſt thank you for it alſo as to the manner, and that upon a double account. 1. That you call men to the manly work of meditation, to waken the ſleepy reaſon of the world, and bring it into exerciſe: moſt of the world would become much wiſer (and conſequently better, and conſequently happier) if they could be brought to be more conſiderate: if they were but ſhut up in the Jeſuit's dungeon one hour in a day, to think ſeriouſly of God, and of their happineſs and duty, and were forced to give an account of their thoughts to ſome ſober perſon! For the matters of God and their ſalvation are ſo great, and have ſuch evidence, that if they would but think oft and ſeriouſly of them, ſure they would think rightly of them at the laſt, at leaſt ſo far as to ſet them in the way, and to call off their hearts from all that which now diverteth and deceiveth them. Would they but ſometimes lay by ſenſuality, and think ſeriouſly what all the pleaſures of this world will prove at laſt, they would read in the dark the *Spaniſh* proverb, *The world is a carrion, and they are dogs that love it.* But men are ſuch hypocrites and atheiſts, that while their clothes, and words, and all that is ſeen of men, are compoſed as beſeemeth men awake; their thoughts, which are ſeen to God alone, are wilfully left ſo diſcompoſed and diſtracted, as if they were dreams or *Bedlam*-ravings: and if one day's thoughts were written down, and read over before a ſober company, they would meet with more ſuch cenſurers than me. Senſuality having hired reaſon for its ſervice in all the ungodly, doth ſet them on the purſuit of a miſtaken intereſt, and involveth them in ſuch a multiplicity of diſtracting buſineſſes, with turbulent paſſions and deceiving luſts, that ſometimes I have queſtioned, whether a wiſe man in his ſleep be not more likely to uſe his thoughts aright, than ſuch men as theſe while they are awake. 2. And your ſpecial way of occaſional meditation, I take to be exceeding uſeful! Your examples are the tranſlating of the ſeveral creatures into a language underſtood; ſo that it will teach men, when they ſee the words (the things) to ſee withal the ſignification (the uſe:) as thoſe, that know not only the materials of an apothecary's ſhop, but alſo the medicinal uſe of the ſimples and compoſitions. I know, that ſet methodical meditations are moſt excellent for thoſe that are able to manage them; but ſhorter occaſional meditations are every man's hourly employment: the weakeſt heads, that cannot hold their thoughts to method, may manage theſe ſhort reflections to their benefit, and without any danger of overſtraining their imaginations. As the moſt learned muſt not diſdain this way of cogitation, ſo women and weak perſons may well make it their frequent profitable work. A little and often is the diet of the infirm: and thoſe are the beſt writings, which are ſuited to the moſt, and the moſt neceſſitous. If the attempt you have here made to draw on yourſelf, or ſome other well furniſhed perſon, to write ſuch a commentary upon all the moſt ordinary occurrences of each day, what an excellent help will it be to them that need ſuch an interpreter, that they may walk in their gardens and meadows as phyſicians, and not as mere huſbandmen, and may hear every creature praiſe its Maker, and the mute to ſpeak the heavenly dialect? "All thy works ſhall praiſe thee, O Lord; and "thy ſaints ſhall bleſs thee." *Pſalm* cxlv. 10.

IT is grown a controverſy, whether a contemplative or an active life be the more excellent? and whether it be more advantageous to holineſs, to ſhut up our ſenſes againſt the creature, and retire to an abſtracted communion with God; or to make ſo much more uſe of creatures, as we would attain to more of the knowledge of the Creator, becauſe it is but in a glaſs that here he can be known. Doubtleſs, in our innocency, this was the book which man was made to learn and read. And it is ſo far from the intention of the Redeemer to cloud the glory of the Creator, or to diminiſh our higheſt reſpects to him, as that it is indeed his office to redeem, and ſave, and

and reſtore the creatures to their Maker's favour, love, and ſervice, and ſo to their primitive uſe and end. In innocency God appeared to man ſufficiently amiable in his worſhip; but to a guilty, curſed, condemned ſinner, bound over to everlaſting puniſhment, it became impoſſible to love the God that doth condemn and puniſh him: but we love him as our Redeemer, that we may love him again as our Creator: and thus Chriſt is the way to the Father, and faith is the way to love, and the goſpel is far from abrogating nature's law; and on the Lord's day we commemorate the wonders of redemption, in order to our juſt admiring the creation; and the ſeventh day's work is not aboliſhed, but incluſively to be performed on the firſt. So that indeed ſo far as we are yet corrupt and weak, it is ſafeſt to retire as far from the creature as well as we can; for experience aſſureth us, that the objects of ſenſe, though they may and muſt be uſed to our helps, ſuch powerful diverters and deceivers of the mind, and clogs in our higheſt contemplations, that ordinarily they are the moſt terrene and ſenſual men, who are moſt buſied in terrene and ſenſual things. But ſo far as we are reſtored ſanctified perſons, we are above the ſnare, and may ſee and love God in his creatures, and ſerve him by them, and make them all the ladder of our contemplations, and utenſils in our Father's work. And thus the world is no worſe to us, than a good horſe, and a fair way, and a good inn, and company, and weather to a traveller; or as a ſhip, in which we muſt ſail to the harbour of endleſs reſt. And thus indeed we have nothing to know but God, and the ſignificant ſanctified creature; nor nothing to do but to ſee and love him in himſelf and his works, and ſerve him by them. But a man muſt know himſelf, that will know his duty: and if all men, then the weak, eſpecially, have need to watch as well as to pray, Lead us not into temptation. And the new book, which Chriſt hath given us to know God by, is much more legible (now) and leſs dangerous, than the old blotted book of the creation: the darkneſs of which, and the perils in uſing it, are grown ſo great, that it hath tempted ſome learned men to think, that as goſpel remedies will not perfectly cleanſe us from ſin till death, ſo till then they will not bring us up to be fit for the higher form, which we fell from, even to know and love the Creator purely in his creatures, and that there we ſhall be returned to this employment, when all "Things are re-"ſtored," *Acts* iii. 21. "And the creature itſelf ſhall be delivered from the bondage "of corruption, into the glorious liberty of the ſons of God," *Rom.* viii. 21. "And "the kingdom ſhall be delivered up to the Father, that God may be all in all," 1 *Cor.* xv. 24, 28. "But we are not yet ripe to know the ſtate, or uſe of the new heaven "or new earth, wherein dwelleth righteouſneſs," 2 *Pet.* iii. 13. "It is enough to "know, that it will be to the glory of the bleſſed Creator, who is now diſhonoured "by his depraved works; and that we ſhall be with Chriſt, and ſee his glory, and "ſee, and love, and praiſe our Maker," *John* xvii. 24. & xii. 26. 2 *Cor.* v. 7, 8. *Matt.* v. 8, *&c.* For my part I will be none of thoſe, that looking at ſimple duty and bare poſſibility, do ſet the hardeſt leſſons to the youngeſt, and draw men to venture too boldly into the world, under pretence of ſeeing or of ſerving God. I will not bid a child leap into a river, becauſe a ſtrong man, that can ſwim well, can get through it; nor will I ſet an infant on a luſty horſe, becauſe he may expedite another man's journey; nor ſet beef and ſturgeon before the ſick, becauſe a ſound man's ſtomach can digeſt them. Nor yet will I ſo retire from the creature, as to ſhut my book, and reject the glaſs, in which the image of God appeareth; or to hide my talents, for fear of the auſterity of my Lord! But for the direct illumination, ſanctification, and comfort of my own ſoul, I will deſire to improve opportunities of contemplation, (aſcending from creatures to the moſt abſtracted apprehenſions that I can reach:) and for the ſerving of my Lord, and the good of others, I will be as glad of the opportunities of

of profitable action, believing that I shall lose nothing by it in the end, but that doing good is the surest way to receive good: and when God restraineth me from out of these (as now he doth from the latter) I shall be glad that I may be employed in the other. The sum is, though a contemplative life may be more predominant with some, and an active with others, yet there are none but the utterly impotent, who are not obliged to use them both: but it is our contemplation, which fitteth both for action and fruition. While I intended but to thank you for your excellent book, this superfluity of words hath made that eruption, for which I may crave your pardon, remaining,

Honourable and worthy Sir,

your very much obliged,

and esteeming servant,

R. BAXTER.

Mr. BOYLE'S *Answer.*

[From the original in the library at *Red-Cross Street.*]

Worthy SIR,

WHEN I thought it my duty to present you those trifles, of which you are pleased to take such obliging notice, I did not think that they should put you to the trouble of a long letter, or procure me so many good instructions as that is replenished with. But I was much more surprised to find, that you look upon that as a temptation to an over great esteem of yourself; which is so defective an expression of the esteem, your devout and happy compositures have justly given considerabler readers than I pretend to be of you: it is more my satisfaction than my wonder, that you have found an innocent divertisement in the perusal of what I have ventured to write about experimental philosophy.

You are too much a friend to contemplation, and too well versed in it, to be an enemy to that sort of learning, that furnishes it with a very copious and diffused, as well as noble object; and there are divers things, that speak you to be none of those narrow-souled divines, that, by too much suspecting natural philosophy, tempt many of its votaries to suspect theology. I am very glad to find, that your kindness to the design of my Occasional Reflections gives you such favourable thoughts of them: and your approbation comes the more seasonable, because, though at *London*, they have been more generally fortunate than could be well expected, and have not received an ill character even from divers of the poets and wits themselves (some of them indisposed enough to give a good one to any thing that aims at the promoting of piety) yet in another place I find, that these harmless papers have not escaped the censure of three of our learned men, who yet seem not to dislike them for their own sake, but mine; pretending, that compositures of that nature might well have been spared by a gentleman, whom they are pleased also on this occasion to look upon as a philosopher, and not unfit to write books in that capacity. But though I had written with no higher aim than applause, I should not be overmuch discouraged by so small a number of those, who themselves would not have disliked a book if another had been the author. And as for what you are pleased to hint about the usefulness of making meditations upon the most usual occurrences, I am so much of your mind, that, before I last waited on you, I was telling some friends of yours and mine that I should be glad to see such a work undertaken, by a pen likely to go through with it, which mine is not, partly because it is pre-engaged to subjects of a very different nature, and partly because the expectation that many have of philosophical discourses from me,

me, would make a work, that does ſo much more properly belong to divines, unacceptable to many readers; and therefore ſince we agree in our wiſhes that the thing were done, and you both are far more able, and otherwiſe qualified to undertake it, I ſhall think the deſign more excellently well lodged, if you would think fit to take it into your hands; wherein, as in all your ſtudies and attempts that tend to the good of ſouls, you will, I hope, eaſily believe, that a moſt happy ſucceſs is heartily wiſhed you by,

Worthy Sir,

your moſt affectionate,

and humble ſervant,

ROB. BOYLE.

Superſcribed,

To my reverend and highly eſteemed friend, Mr. Richard Baxter, *at his houſe at* Acton.

Letters from the lady RANELAGH *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

My Brother, *January* 7.

YOURS, which incloſed one to my brother *Corke*, and another to Capt. *Whiteby*, came to my hands by the laſt poſt: thoſe two I yeſterday diſpatched; and that, which by the poſt before came to me for *Will. Somers*, I endeavoured to have delivered to him with a like diligence; but his being out of town kept me from effecting it. He is now returned, and has it, but was fain to come to me, to make him underſtand what you meant by the count. I would gladly have got the return you deſired from him to have ſent you by this diſpatch, but he ſays he cannot get it till the next, and then it ſhall be ſent you. I hope the misfortune you are fallen under, by the ignorance or miſtake of your lawyer, is no new one; but if it be, I promiſe myſelf that God will make you a greater gainer by thoſe diſappointments he orders you to meet with in your fortune, than if you had received the entire revenue thereof, experience being a greater treaſure than money, to thoſe who are inſtructed to make a right uſe thereof; and for your eſtate, I ſhould not wiſh it more, unleſs I had ſeen that God had taught you to employ it ſo, as to make it uſeful both to yourſelf and others. But having ſeen that I durſt truſt you with it, if it were ten times as much, and cannot but think, that as much as it is, or honeſtly may be made to be, ſhould rather be yours than any of your agents. Our young earl of *Kildare* I have perſuaded into a ſenſe of the fitneſs of his having ſome perſon of conſcience, knowledge and diſcretion, as alſo of civility and good faſhion, to be with him as a companion, that might alſo do him ſuch ſervices as a man not ſo qualified could not do; and he is willing to give ſuch a one fifty pounds a year, his diet, lodging, waſhing, the uſe of a ſervant of his to do neceſſary things about him, and a horſe kept at his charge for him to uſe upon his or his own occaſions; and deſirous that you would give yourſelf the trouble of enquiring him out ſuch a one, which I beſeech you do, and take the aſſiſtance of honeſt Dr. *Cox* herein, for whoſe and for his wife's preſervation from that loathſome diſeaſe I deſire to be truly thankful to him, who was their preſerver, and who in them has preſerved me two friends, to whom I have been very much obliged, and am very really affectionate; and I beſeech you to aſſure them from me, and preſent them my unfeigned ſervice. For Mr. *Waller*, I never heard one word from him ſince I left him, but what you ſaid in your laſt; and I know his calling as a poet gives him licence

to say as great things as he can, without intending they should signify any more than that he said them, or have any higher end, than to make him admired by those, whose admirations are so volatile, as to be raised by a sound of words; and the less the subject he speaks of, or the party he speaks to, deserves the great things he says, the greater those things are, and the greater advance they are to make towards his being admired, by his poetical laws. Therefore if he would be but as little proud of saying great things to me, as I hope I shall be in hearing them from him, he would, I am apt to think, escape some guilt, that now his fine sayings lay him under; and I could never give myself a reason, why he, who can say such things upon things that so little deserved them, should be so unwilling to apply that faculty to those subjects that were truly excellent, but this, that there his subject would have been debased by his highest expressions, and he humbled in the exercise of his wit; but where he has employed it, his subjects have been raised by his fancy, and himself by reflecting upon it. I shall therefore return his great professions with a plain hearty wish, that he may partake in gifts more excellent than his wit, and employ that for the time to come upon subjects more excellent than hitherto he has done; and, without compliment, I should gladly be serviceable to him, or his wife, to whom I am a servant upon much better accounts, than he hitherto makes it possible for me to be to him. I shall only mind you, that our young earl needs one that may know how a little to govern and direct, without letting him see he intends to do so; and, as soon as you can find such a one, I beseech you give notice thereof to me, that order may be taken for his coming over by

Your *K. R.*

My Brother, *June* 3.

THIS inclosed, my brother *Corke* sends me word, contains an account of what he has done in your affairs, to which he says a speedy answer from you will be necessary, to enable him to proceed therein to your advantage. A list of your *Connaught* lands I received from him with this, and not before. I have already sent two of them to the two persons he and I have engaged to try what rents they may be raised to; and when I receive their accounts, I shall, God willing, hasten them to him, that he may pursue what will most tend to your benefit, whose weariness of a place and company, that, instead of helping you to improve your time, does, in spite of your teeth, steal it from you. I wonder not at, nor do I think there is any thing we are more concerned not to consent to, than the parting with that treasure, unless it be towards the acquiring or performing some of those things, in order to which it was given us, since all other talents must be improved, whilst we are here, by the help of that; and when our measure of that is spent our work ends, and we must begin to receive those recompences that we shall be receiving for ever, and which will be suitable to what we have done with and in our time. The other being from one of your own fraternity, who thinks himself in the highest class of your philosophical Society, will, I presume, without my solicitation, be afforded a speedy return: I therefore only beg that may come through my hands open, as this does, and for gratitude for that favour I shall solicit a reply. If this find you in the West, let me beseech you to present my humble service to my two lady *Bristols*, and wish you would disappoint *Frank* by bringing a wife of your own to *Stalbridge*; a business I must still mind you of, though you give me cause to doubt, you will as hardly pardon me those few words, as the rest of the trouble given you here by

Your *K. R.*

In

IF this find you at *London*, let it a little call upon you to be Mr. *Worſley*'s advocate to *Brogbill*, who is of that committee, where the act is like to paſs, that, if not prevented, will put him out of his place.

SOME ſingle piony roots I beg may be ſent me, fit to plant here, if you can without too much trouble get any.

My Brother, *December* 3, [1659.]

BEING able by this to let you know, that my brother *Corke* came ſafe hither yeſterday, I hope by the next you will aſſure me you will not be long from hence: and if I may know how you mean to order yourſelf, and may be employed in getting you accommodated with lodging, either here in this poor houſe, as far as its room will go, or near hereabouts, or where elſe you ſhall chuſe, I hope I need not aſſure you, you do me but right in believing, I ſhould gladly be ſet to work in your ſervice, though of ſo inferior a nature in compariſon. Yeſterday I received out of *France* from Mr. *Oldenburg* this relation, which he had from *Montpelier*, and which he deſired me to communicate to you, and upon it to beg your thoughts, and thoſe of your brethren philoſophers, he aſſuring that the matter of fact is indubitably true: A woman of ſeventy years old, having lived about twenty-four years a widow, and often complained to phyſicians of a heavy ſtony burden ſhe carried in her belly, did precipitate herſelf out of a high window, and thereupon died ſhortly after; but being opened at *Avignon*, was found to have in her belly, where the intrails lie, commonly called abdomen, not in the womb, a child, of the bigneſs of one of ſix month's ordinary growth, but with an extraordinary big head, which had begun to petrify, and eſpecially his head turned into a gypſy or chalky ſubſtance. This is ſurely ſtrange, and I long to receive your thoughts upon it. Our public news you will for the moſt part find in the print, in *Monck*'s laſt letter. Commiſſioners are going down to *Newcaſtle*, as he deſires; and ſome talk here has been of a petition ſetting on foot by a great number of prentices, whereof notice was given by my lord mayor to *Wallingford* houſe, and ſuch order taken there, that they ſay they are quieted. Through rich mercy we yet continue in peace and quiet. A rational diſcourſe with ſome very equal propoſitions I yeſternight received out of *France*, which, if you give me not hopes of ſeeing you ſpeedily here, ſhall, God willing, be ſent you. I come juſt now from my brother *Corke*'s, where was alſo my ſiſter *Warwick* (and they all your ſervants) but alas! the entertainment of lords, ladies, and reaſonable creatures, are yet ſeveral things, to the great grief of

Your *K. R.*

MY girls are your ſervants.

I AM with many thanks to acknowledge the receipt of the two books by the carrier, that you were pleaſed to ſend me for myſelf, and to be ſent into *France*.

My Brother, *October* 12.

IT has pleaſed God to bring us ſafe to *Oxford*, and I am lodged at Mr. *Croſſe*'s, with deſign to be able to give you from experience an account which is the warmeſt room; and indeed I am ſatisfied with neither of them as to that point, becauſe the doors are placed ſo juſt by the chimnies, that if you have the benefit of the fire, you muſt venture having the inconvenience of the wind, which yet may be helped in either by a folding ſkreen; and then I think that which looks into the garden will be the more comfortable, though he have near hanged and intends to matt that you lay in before. You are here much deſired, and I could wiſh you here as ſoon as you can:

for I think you would have both more liberty and more converſation, than where you are; and both theſe will be neceſſary, both to your health and your uſefulneſs; and as I am ſure I have abundantly ſhared in the latter from you, ſo I muſt profeſs to be very heartily concerned for the former, and muſt beg that you would be ſo too, and let me ſee you are, by your care for its preſervation, which are the terms upon which, for aught I ſee, you muſt have that bleſſing; and I am ſure you ought not to grudge yourſelf your cares, ſince by affording them there you beſtow them too upon your friends, and upon me, I am ſure, in the moſt obliging way, who will not give any of that number, that pretend to that relation to you, the precedency in point of the affection belonging to it, though I muſt many in point of the other qualifications. And alas! how evident is it, that we had need of better things than the beſt enjoyments of creatures to make us happy; when even friendſhip itſelf brings its ſenſible afflictions as well as refreſhments with it? The late experience I have had of this in our parting, will not, I hope, be without inſtruction to me, as I am ſure it has not been without great evidence of the much obligation that lies upon me in point of gratitude, as well as of inclination, to be

Yours affectionately and conſtantly,

K. R.

I RECEIVED the favour of the books from you by my ſiſter *Corke*, and I hope you will alſo give me leave to pay for them.

MY ſervice to dear *Broghill*, my ſiſter *Barrimore*, and ſiſter *Broghill*; and the ſame very affectionately to my dear lord preſident and his lady. I ſhall write to them all ſhortly, if it pleaſe God.

Lees, Auguſt 6, 1664 5.

I AM glad, my brother, to hear you go on to mend daily, in matter of your health, but ſorry to find you are not yet quite recovered to your former ſtate therein. If our reports do not ſpeak louder than truth gives them leave to do, God has again put a new hand of mercy upon this poor nation, to draw it to himſelf. But, for aught I hear, we are like to make our returns as diſingenuous towards him for this deliverance of the many preceding ones that he has afforded us; which makes me fear, that even our bleſſings will prove bitterneſs to us in the end. I congratulate with you the happineſs God has given you in making the employments of your health ſuch, as you may ſeaſonably and comfortably review and continue in the times of your ſickneſs: the rarity of the mercy, that brings any one to that courſe of life, highly recommends it to your value and gratitude, for moſt people do ſo live, as to leave themſelves no better hope for their death beds, than that thereon they may by repentance undo all they have been doing in their way thither. Whether the dominion you are recommending to men will take ſo much with them, to raiſe their ambitions towards its attainment, as that they moſt commonly purſue with much more pains, I know not, and much doubt the worſt. But certainly it is moſt likely, the beſt way of man's ruling the creature is by his employing thoſe faculties to that purpoſe, which God himſelf has fitted in their employment to make him able to do ſo; and thoſe are his rational ones, whereby as he may diſcover the properties and uſes of other things, ſo he may chuſe to apply them thereby to their proper ends, the ſervice and inſtruction of mankind; but ſwords and guns are taken, upon the word of the great deſtroyer, to be more ſuitable means to that end, and uſed accordingly, though we daily ſee, that by that way of overcoming we ſpoil what we ſhould govern. Your naming *Oxford* to me as free from infection, makes me fear you may have ſome thoughts of going thither;

thither; which if you have, I ſhall much more repent my not ſtaying with you, yet dare not perſuade againſt it, becauſe I aſſure myſelf you are carried thither in purſuit of aims, that I would rather excite than obſtruct you in. But I earneſtly petition, if you have, that you would before you go give me warning enough to make you a viſit; for I have now got a lodging at *Newington-Green*, which miſs's illneſs, which for two or three days has been pretty violent, though now turned into an ague at preſent, keeps from being uſed by, yours affectionately,

K. R.

THE ladies here preſent you ſervices. My girls are your humble ſervants.

Lees, July 29, [1665.]

I HAD, my brother, rambled ſo far before I was aware into other matters, in my laſt to you, that I had not left myſelf time or room to mention what I chiefly deſigned, and which I could not therefore endure to mention, *en paſſant*, my ſatisfaction in hearing you had near finiſhed your treatiſe of ſubſtantial forms, which will yet ſo much further explicate your notion of figures and texture, as to help the conſidering part of mankind to a clearer proſpect into this great frame of the viſible world, and therein of the power and wiſdom of its great Maker, than the rough draught, wherein it has hitherto been repreſented, in the ignorant and wholeſale philoſophy, that has ſo long, by the power of an implicit faith in the doctrine of *Ariſtotle* and the ſchools, gone current in the world, has ever been able to aſſiſt them towards; and I am not a little delighted to find, that your diſcourſe of the excellency of divinity will be finiſhed about the ſame time, ſince that will make it apparently come from one, who chuſes it not for the beſt, becauſe he knows little beſides, but from one, who, from a general knowledge of other things, has, upon deliberation, choſen to give that pre-eminence of them all, which may very probable invite men to conſider it ſeriouſly, who have, upon a preſumption of their other learning, eſteemed themſelves entitled to neglect or oppoſe that. Though you tell me not who objected againſt your writing Occaſional Meditations, becauſe you have named me, who encourage you to write more of them, I dare venture to lay my credit with you, that you yourſelf do think your celebrater as competent a judge, in ſuch caſes, as your exceptions-maker. And I think the very objections, with the reaſons of it, are a ſtrong argument againſt itſelf; and ſhew it is made out of fear, that ſuch things written by a philoſopher may do that good in the world, that the objector (who I preſume pretends to be one himſelf, becauſe he would think being ſo ſets a man above making a uſe of the creatures with reference to the glory of the Creator, or to beget ingenuous and grateful thoughts in the hearts of men towards him) would have done, and therefore decries it for its meanneſs, whilſt he dares not look at the light it breaks out with, leſt that ſhould make him out of love with himſelf. This makes me hope you will not give ſuch perſons as prevailing a power over your thoughts, as you did Sir *Peter* over your diſcourſe of the Scriptures, to cut them off from being publiſhed for the further good of thoſe, who own themſelves to be benefited by thoſe you have already publiſhed; but that, ſince you are not to be ſuſpected able to keep from making Occaſional Meditations upon a ſubject ſo plentifully affording you matter for them, as the great judgment now in this nation, and the effects it has already produced therein, you will not be ſo uncharitable as to keep them to yourſelf, ſince the general fear ſtruck by this plague into all ſorts of people, does ſurely prepare the hearts wherein it lodges with leſs reſiſtance to hear of a God, and the things of another life, than before that preparation they would have been apt to have heard them with; and ſince it may alſo well be ſuppoſed that many, who find that fear diſquieting enough, ſtrive to free themſelves

themſelves from that by endeavouring againſt thinking at all, becauſe they know not how to begin ſo to think, as by thinking to get themſelves relieved from the torments their fears bring them, or thoſe everlaſting ones which bring their fears upon them, upon the approach of that diſeaſe that ſcatters death ſo plentifully round about them, which they know ſends into eternity. How obligingly then might you teach ſuch to help themſelves in ſo great a diſtreſs, by reading your reflections on the grounds of their fears, without finding therein any particular reproof addreſſed to themſelves, that might arm them with offence againſt all the good advice given thereupon; and in ſhewing them there, how thoſe who are prepared for death can entertain themſelves upon the approaches of it, as rational and pious perſons, taking in as well comforts as cautions to themſelves, from both thoſe principles, upon the moſt mortal occaſions; and to find things indeed done, ſhocks all objections againſt attempting to do the ſame things, that can be raiſed upon the pretence of the impoſſibility of doing them; and the belief of a poſſibility of effecting things ſo conducive to mens preſent peace and eternal ſecurity, as to be rendered hurt-free (though not ſhot-free) from death-darts, muſt be a very ſtrong engagement to men to ſet themſelves diligently and reſolutely to make that attainment their own. Now pray do not daub your own conſcience, for you will never ſtop my nor many more mouths with your allowable reaſons, known to yourſelf, and producible to no body elſe, againſt ſo ſeaſonable and aſſiſting a work of mercy; but take up your papers, and add theſe to the reſt you confeſs lay ready by you when you publiſhed the laſt, and let us have the ſecond edition, to help the people to ſpend a faſt day devoutly and unweariedly. I ſend you here the receipt I promiſed you in my laſt, of which I long for an anſwer as to the inviting part (here we will help you to take up and tranſcribe.) Our palſy balſam does wonders here, and God does no leſs than wonderfully in preſerving all theſe parts hitherto from infection, though *Crip*'s jealouſy is very inſtrumentally active towards it. All the ladies, the counteſs, and my girls, are your ſervants, and I with great ſincerity and entireneſs

Yours, *K. R.*

Lees, September 9, [1665.]

I FIND, my brother, that though you be retired from *London*, you cannot be ſo from the viſits of your friends, nor from the diſtractions that the kindneſs of them gives to the happier employments God has enabled you to dedicate yourſelf to. And though I be apt to think that thoſe things, that would be eſteemed by others welcome diverſions, are to you interruptions uneaſy enough; yet I know not whether they do not as much recommend more retired and ſerious entertainments to us in general, by the variety they make us taſte, than they hinder us in the actual exerciſe of our thoughts about them, during the time we are forced to let them take us up; which ſeems to me a piece of the neceſſary penance of this life, that all muſt now and then undergo, to diſcharge the exactions of natural relations, and to continue the affections with which they ought to be diſcharged. In your letter I met the only news I had heard this good while of my lord and lady *Clifford*, who, I preſume, took you in their way towards *Yorkſhire*, where the counteſs has already paid her ſiſter ducheſs a viſit of a whole week long, and from that went home full of the deſign of treating her and the duke at her own houſe, from which you will not ſuſpect ſhe will too eaſily be diſturbed by mortifying conſiderations, though beſides the public, and even general ones, which are very great, there is a ſmall particular one added, by poor *Charles Supple*'s being ſhot in the laſt ſea-fight with a muſket bullet into the head; of which it is thought he will hardly recover. The *London* weekly bills do, I aſſure myſelf, give you the ſad news that place affords; which is extraordinary enough to be amazing to

thoſe, who would but ſeriouſly reflect upon what was doing in that place before we left it, and what has been ſuffered there ſince. Not that the former is not an apparent and juſt cauſe of the latter, but that that cauſe and effect both may confound us in the ſerious reflection upon them; but ſince you ſtill continue reſolute againſt publiſhing thoſe you make, I dare urge it no further: eſpecially ſince you ſeem to decline that, in order to recommending things of more uſe, in order to religion, the intereſts whereof have been ſo long ſo much neglected, that they even ſeem to lie a bleeding now; and therefore to be now ſerviceable to them, will be a work that will appear to carry ſuch a ſincerity in it, as God will not fail abundantly to recompenſe. And how delightful it muſt be to ſee you, whom I love ſo particularly, engaged in ſuch works that lead to ſuch rewards, you may eaſily gueſs. I can juſt requite the news you ſent me of *Oxford*, with ſending you the like of this; which is yet, through the rich mercy of God (as is alſo my poor houſe at *London*, or at leaſt was three or four days ſince) preſerved clear from the ſpreading infection of this plague. But it is now more beſet with it than it was when I writ laſt to you; the next town to *Chelmsford*, and one houſe at *Brentwood*, having had ſome in them dead of it, by the coming in of perſons thither from other infected places. But few places have it no nearer them than this yet has. The road from *Epping* to *Blechington* my lady *Angleſey* will be able to teach you; for ſhe went it herſelf, and will, I dare ſay, heartily allow you to lodge at her houſe of *Park-Hall*, which is but a mile or two from *Epping*, and from thence hither is about eighteen miles. For my lord of *Warwick*, I can aſſure you, as he does me, that he is not only not afraid, but deſirous of your company here; and he adviſes your lying at *Kimbolton*, my lord chamberlain's houſe, a day's journey from *Oxford*; and from thence at *Audley-end*, another day's journey; and thence hither, but to Mr. *Waller*'s; which I hope is uninfected, and in whoſe houſe I dare ſay you may lie and be welcome, near *Beaconsfield*, and thence to *Park-Hall*, which is alſo clear, for aught I know, and thence hither is your neareſt way; and *Crip* would ſend a man to guide you, when you come towards theſe parts, if we might know when you would do ſo; but one of theſe two ways will eaſily be found, and both, I hope, are ſafe. You will be heartily welcome, and very quiet here, and I am ſure give much ſatisfaction to ſeveral, though moſt to me; and it will be to your good nature ſome, to give ſo much; and therefore, in hope of that happineſs, with the ſervices of all here preſented to your honour, I ſhall conclude myſelf

Yours.

If you make not haſte, the court will overtake you at *Oxford*.

Nov. 14, [1665.]

AS well for juſtice and experience ſake, my brother, as for my own eaſe, I do rather believe that it is my own misfortune than your unkindneſs, that has kept me from receiving one line from you ſince that you wrote me by Sir *William Lemans*; though even ſo conſidered, it has afforded me ſome unpleaſant doubts concerning you, which have been increaſed by the memory of the promiſe you ſent me of letting me know how I might ſend to and hear from you before you left *Oxford*; which whether or no you have yet done I am ignorant of, and the ſuſpence that ignorance keeps me in, in reſpect to your health, muſt be rendered the more uneaſy, by the great mortality now ſtirring in this poor nation. I have not therefore ſat ſtill under this unſatisfaction, but have twice or thrice wrote to you by the way of *London*, not having had any opportunity in that time to ſend to you more directly from hence, till now. Mr. *Jeſſop*'s going to *Oxford* gives me this; where if he meet you, he will be able to tell you with how extraordinary a mercy he has preſerved this family all this while,

nor

not only from that, which by way of miſerable excellency is called the ſickneſs, but from all other diſeaſes, *Crip* only excepted, who had lately a roaring fit of the gout, but a very ſhort one, in reſpect of thoſe he uſed to have at this time of the year, which he attributes much to his chewing of ſcurvy-graſs; of the benefit of which I have received another teſtimony from one whom I adviſed to uſe it. To repair to myſelf your abſence as much as I can, next my ſubmitting to the will of the all-wiſe Diſpoſer, who is pleaſed ſo to caſt us, I entertain myſelf with your books, which yet, by the very few ſtudious perſons I meet here, are, as faſt as I can ſuffer them to be, begged or borrowed from me, who lend them willingly, upon the ſame account I ſpare you patiently, the hope that both they and you will do more good abroad than by being ſtill with me; and I ſhall ere long have read them all over, as well thoſe I had read before, as the laſt; and then my fingers will be itching to look into the ſealed roll of papers, written upon, "About religious matters;" and I would fain open them, with your leave, which I hope my being ſo ingenious a coxcomb as not to do without aſking it, will rather bribe you to give than deny me. But if it ſhould not, I know not what I may be tempted to; and you know I am of a ſex, that has long been allowed for an excuſe of the frailties of thoſe who are of it; and, conſidering how much you believe of thoſe, I muſt not fear but you will conſider them as tenderly as they require to be conſidered, and then you will not ſtick to afford me ſuch a pardon. I am very much pleaſed with the aſſurance my experience of God's goodneſs to you gives me, of your neither being idle, nor ill employed, nor only for your own good; but I ſhould be much more pleaſed in having a ſhare in what you are about, that exceeds not my capacity of underſtanding; and if you would let me receive ſome ſuch preſent by the return of this bearer, you would do me a great favour, and give me a profitable employment; for all perſons great and fair are not company, nor can give entertainment that reaches beyond our ſenſes in its pleaſingneſs. *Frank* is, I bleſs God, freed from her ſpitting, but afflicted with her head-ach more than uſual; to which her not ſleeping well, and her want of tea, contributes very much. If *Leeſhe* be with you, pray preſent him my humble ſervice, and my petition for ſome for her, who and her ſiſter are your humble ſervants, and I with great affection and reality,

Yours, *K. R.*

Sept. 12, [1666.]

IT having, my brother, pleaſed God ſtill to continue us in the ſafety you left us; I have ſince taken to myſelf the mortification of ſeeing the deſolations that God, in his juſt and dreadful judgment, has made in the poor city, which is thereby now turned indeed into a ruinous heap, and gave me the moſt amazing ſpectacle that ever I beheld in my progreſs about and into this ruin. I diſpenſed your charity amongſt ſome poor families and perſons, that I found yet in the fields unhouſed. Since then Mr. *Worſley* has been with me, and given me very conſiderable particulars of providence, that aſſiſted to his preſervation and that of his goods, which he probably enough thinks raiſed in value, as to that part of them wherein you have any intereſt, by the great conſumption that has been of that ſort of commodity, both at *Sion* college, and alſo in St. *Faith*'s church, where all thereof was deſtroyed. He very ingenuouſly told me, he now deſired to perfect to you that bill of ſale for them that he at firſt promiſed to give you, not ſeeing how your title to them can otherwiſe be legally good and ſure; and he propoſes then their being in your name put into Dr. *Sydenham*'s hand, as his ſecurity for 250*l.* for ſix months; which, if you have no exceptions to, will fall in well for my occaſions, one of the moſt preſſing of which is the paying of 100*l.* to the doctor,

doctor, which I owe him, and for which your bond was given, by way of collateral security, to confirm the engagement of this house to him therefore, so as he need lay out but 150 *l.* and pay himself 100 *l.* upon a security worth 5 or 600 *l.* and that but for six months. But if you have any exception to this, use the like liberty in rejecting it, that I take in proposing it; or else you will forbid me that sort of proceeding with you for ever; and, possibly, some, where you are, might willingly deal for such a treasure as those things are by this sad accident made to be now; if not, I forget not what you were pleased to offer before you went hence. I am to add to you, from Mr. *W.* that just before this fire, he had from the *Barbadoes* received some of the senna ripe and cured, with an assurance, that his correspondent there had saved enough of the seed to sow half an acre with it; and had taken ground to that end: that he is now going to make the trial of it by himself, having begun to do so by an apothecary, and as soon as he has done so, intends to present his majesty with some of it, to have it tried by Dr. *Cox*, or who else he shall pitch upon, and then to proceed to take out his patent for his privilege, which he looks upon as like to be too considerable to be long enjoyed alone by him, without envy; to avoid which, he did offer to join our friend and his at court, as patentee with him therein. But you know what he assured us together of his inability to advance the 500 *l.* expected by Mr. *W.* from him for his admittance into that privilege, and therefore he desired me to offer you the putting in of any ingenious friend of yours, who may be fit to countenance the thing, and apprehensive enough of its value, to look upon his being made sharer therein for 500 *l.* as a kindness done him; and upon your score he shall be admitted. To these two things he would gladly receive your answer with as little delay as you can give it; as I do desire at the same rate to hear how you got to *Oxford*, and how you enjoy your health there. All our news here are the sad stories of undone people, and of those we have great abundance, but scarcity enough of pity towards them, whose wants will increase, as the charity of those, that now relieve them, will tire; to prevent both which ills, some think, the most rational way were, to make a city of huts, till one may again be made of houses, and in them to let the poorer sort of tradesmen and labourers be set a-work and trafficking, and that so by employment and getting something, they may be kept from being idle and at leisure to find out and hatch causes of discontent and disorder. But as yet, no such thing goes about, which makes those, who consider, fear we shall feel more of this ruin, when the undone people feel more of their want, than in their present astonishment they are sensible of. We are, God be praised, reasonable well as to health in this small family, only *Thomas*'s not having been so for two or three days, has hindered him from going abroad in order to obeying your commands. *Gresham* college is now *Guildhall*, and the *Exchange* and all. If the philosophers and the citizens become one corporation, henceforward, it may be hoped our affairs may be better managed than they have been, unless the citizens should prove the prevailing party, which, as the worst, it is most like to do in this world, according to the small observation of

Yours, *K. R.*

Sept. 18, [1666.]

THOUGH I had not, my brother, received your first letter, and the bag of lime, when I first writ to you, they have both come safe since to my hands; for which I present you my humble thanks, and repeat them for the repeated favour of your other of the 15th instant, which I last night received, and therein the assurance your acquiescing in the proposal, wherein Dr. *Sydenham* was mentioned, with which

I this day acquainted him, who propoſed it to me (who came to me freſh from his majeſty, to whom he had preſented a parcel of his already tried ſenna, to be further tried by his majeſty's command, who received it not only pleaſedly, but greedily, and much complimented its preſenter) who, upon advice, thought the beſt way to put it into ſpeedy practice, would be your making him the propoſition in a few lines from yourſelf, Mr. *W.* not being enough a man in his favour, to make it grateful; and I being ſo much fallen from it (why, I no more know, than I did how I came into it) that he has not ſince my return home, nor for a good while before, made me ſo much as a civil viſit, and you being a perſon, for whom he has much reverence, and not the leſs becauſe you have an eſtate in land viſible to him, and who may properly enough offer the ſtriking off the 100 *l.* I owe him, becauſe you were pleaſed by your own bond to engage for it. This, if you can ſatisfiedly do, you may if you pleaſe tell him. I ſhall direct him to the place, where the books are; and I ſhall either deliver him your letter myſelf, or make *Thomas* do ſo, which of the two you ſhall direct: but if you ſcruple this at all, be pleaſed to ſay ſo; and I will in your name propound it to him. I may ſuddenly be able to give you a particular account of the courſe Mr. *W.* thinks of taking to make his ſenna preſently a commodity, and to multiply it to great quantities; which appears to me neither diſingenuous nor unpolitic. My brother *Burlington* intended not to begin his journey towards *Dublin* (which he will viſit in his way to *England*) till as yeſterday, which freed me from the fears for him, that laſt night's extraordinary ſtormineſs might reaſonably have given me, if I had had cauſe to ſuſpect he had been then at ſea. Our fleet is ſuppoſed to have been ſo, and fifty ſail of the *French*, with the duke of *Beaufort*, were very lately ſeen from the *Iſle of Wight* upon our coaſt. This day the parliament met, but ſo thinly, that his majeſty ſtayed going thither, till the houſes might be better filled to receive him. To this day God is pleaſed to continue the wonder, of not ſuffering any act of rudeneſs or violence to be done by any of thoſe numerous ruined people by the late fire, to thoſe that were preſerved from the judgment that ſo deſtructively fell upon them; though their numbers be ſtill increaſing, by the pulling down work that is ſtill proceeded in about the turrets and *Tower-Hill*, whereby above one thouſand of thoſe that the fire left in their houſes, are turned out of them. Sir *John Langham* has generouſly given five hundred pounds a year to the poor of the burnt pariſhes, to be continued to them during his life, from that family, by Dr. *Cox*, and another friend is yet ſent to

Your *K. R.*

MY girls are your humble ſervants. I preſented your ſervice to my ſiſter *Burlington*.

November 13, [1666.]

IT is no ſtrange, though it be often an uneaſy thing, my brother, to meet with diſappointments in what we moſt deſire, or apprehend ourſelves moſt ſecure of, in this world; and therefore I was not unwarned, that ſuch a matter might be encountered in the buſineſs of your coming up, which yet I am glad is not delayed by any indiſpoſition you find in yourſelf, and which I therefore hope you will ſuffer to be delayed no longer, than your neceſſary occaſions oblige you to. By the ruin of *Paul's* there is made a melancholy diſcovery of a dead body, buried, it ſeems, in a vault between that great church and St. *Faith's*, that was under it; which vault being broken by the fall of a huge weight of ſtones thrown down by the fire, there appears a man of a light brown hair upon his head and beard, in his full and entire ſhape, except

except where his chap is a little broken by ſome of the ſtones that fell, and by that breach his tongue is made viſible within his mouth, but ſhrivelled up; his fleſh dried upon, but not conſumed from off his bones; he ſtands upright upon his tip-toe, only his head leans a little on one ſide againſt the wall. By an inſcription upon his breaſt he is found to have been *Thomas*, biſhop of *London*, chancellor, and buried in the year 1402. He was not embalmed, nor is any ſear-cloth to be found about him; but upon the ſkin of his arms ſome bits of thread, which are apprehended to have been that uſed in ſewing up his ſhroud, which makes his ſo entire preſervation for now two hundred and ſixty-four years very remarkable. The ground there, they ſay, is chaulky (that is, I preſume, lime-ſtony) which it is yet aſcribed to. To what you are pleaſed to enquire about the papiſts, my ſmall intelligence capacitates me to return you but this anſwer, that the apprehenſion, that you know ran ſo currently amongſt the people, whilſt the fire laſted in the city, of its being inkindled with deſign by the *French* and *Dutch*, having received a confirmation by the confeſſion of a *Frenchman* of that religion, who conſtantly affirmed himſelf and another man of his own country and opinion to have been, by fire balls, the burners of the firſt houſe, that proved the train to fire the reſt of the city; and he being upon that confeſſion of his often repeated, and (to the confutation of what was ſaid of his being mad) he having, in the midſt of all the ruins, brought his keeper to the very place where that baker's houſe ſtood, and affirmed he there threw the balls with his comrade, and ſaw them burn down the houſe, when his fellow went preſently for *France*, and he into *Eſſex*, (where he was taken and brought up) executed at *Tyburn*. And this being now ſo good a record, that thereupon (I am told) all the judges have given their opinions, that no tenant in the city is bound to be accountable to his landlord for what was burned, becauſe the fire was kindled by a foreign and proclaimed enemy, againſt whom it was not in the landlord's power to give them protection. This, I ſay, has revived to the memory of the people the principles and former practices of thoſe of that religion, and raiſed a fear in them of their being now deſigning farther miſchiefs, that may reach their lives, by a maſſacre; which fears have run like wild-fire through the whole nation, and cauſed a loud cry, of the papiſts having the greateſt part of the arms in their hands; on which the Houſe of Commons paſſed ſome votes to have all the laws in force executed upon them, and in particular, to have all ſent out of his majeſty's guards, and diſarmed, that were of that religion, and ſhould not prove their not being ſo, by taking the laws of allegiance and ſupremacy, and receiving the ſacrament according to the church of *England*. Theſe votes being concurred in by the lords, and by both preſented to his majeſty, he has, purſuant thereto, publiſhed the incloſed. I muſt haſte, leſt I loſe ſending. I cannot aſſure you, but I doubt our fatal bill has this day paſſed the lords; but I am ſure I am

Yours affectionately.

I HAVE ordered *Thomas* to look out for charcoal, and ſhould gladly receive your order to put my back-houſe in poſture to be employed by you, againſt your coming, that you might loſe no time after.

MY girls are your ſervants.

September 11, [1677.]

I CANNOT, my brother, but condole with you the remove of our true, honeſt, and ingenious friends in their ſeveral ways, Dr. *Worſley* and Mr. *Oldenburg*, ſince it hath pleaſed God to call them hence ſo ſoon one after another. Yet I am not without my fears, that my mentioning of them may revive to your good nature the ſorrow, that I aſſure myſelf you received the news of their deaths with. But my ex-

perience (though I put but an ill compliment upon you in meaſuring you by myſelf) has taught me, that it is ſafer to have thoſe uneaſy things to us ſo far touched upon, as to beget ſome vent for ſuch ſorrows, rather than by ſmothering them within ourſelves to continue to us a longer exerciſe under them. They each of them in their way diligently ſerved their generation, and were friends to us. They have left no blot upon their memories (unleſs their not having died rich may go for one) and I hope they have carried conſciences of uprightneſs with them, and have made their great change to their everlaſting advantage; and if they be poſſeſſed of what we do but hope for, and what we ſhould preſs after, we need not lament for them: and for ourſelves, ſuch loſſes, by the bleſſing of God, are made to aſſiſt us in the work he calls us to, of getting ourſelves weaned from this world, out of which, if the few pious and ingenious perſons, that make it tolerable, were once taken, what would be left in it but rattles, and fools to play and make a noiſe with them, or inſtruments of cruelty, and knaves to uſe them in doing miſchief. Therefore let me beg you to baniſh melancholy thoughts upon theſe ſad occaſions, and inſtead of recommending ſerious ones to you, let me beg you to enjoy the bleſſing God has beſtowed upon you, in an ability of knowing how to entertain yourſelf, and converſe with him in the abſence of all other company; and in ſo doing to find that, which may not only render that abſence tolerable, but welcome. I am loth to conclude after that, with threatening you with my return to you: but the hopes of it may well at the end of a condoling letter be brought in as a conſolation to her, that is

Your own affectionately.

THE counteſs and our youths are your ſervants.

BROTHER, *September* 14.

SINCE your going into *Ireland*, I received to this day but two letters from you, and thoſe at one time, written upon your firſt arrival, by means whereof I am kept in a conſtant ſuſpence and uncertainty concerning one of my neareſt intereſts in this world, which is that of your health. But alas! I might be ſo, though I heard as frequently from you as I could hope or wiſh; and indeed there is but one ſatisfying certainty, and that is, that nothing comes to paſs but by the will of our heavenly Father, nor nothing to paſs by that will, which is not beſt in itſelf, and beſt to them, whom he hath dignified by making them his not only by creation, but by union through Chriſt.

THE laſt fortnight I have been ſomething more than ordinarily exerciſed in thoſe accidents, that teach me experimentally to confeſs that ſentence, which *Solomon* pronounced of vanity and vexation upon all things under the ſun, to be extremely true. This day fortnight I had a whole committee to my breakfaſt, who were pleaſed in civility and kindneſs (as they ſaid to me) to call me in, and give me the thoughts they had had of my little affairs, and to hear from me my own thoughts upon theirs, and upon the ſame ſubject. But they, like lawgivers indeed, were to command, and not reaſon; and by exerciſing their legiſlative power, gave the affair the concluſion I formerly told you; which, though it was very ſmall in point of receipt, it was not altogether inconſiderable in point of reſtoring and ſecuring, and very welcome to me, as it advanced far towards my freedom from an attendance, that both my body and conſcience were weary of; and in that I began as ſoon as they diſmiſſed me, to delight myſelf. But to chace me out of that fool's paradiſe, that very evening I received a letter from *Charles Rich*, telling me of my ſiſter's being ſtrangely

ſtrangely and extremely ill, and inviting me very earneſtly upon that occaſion to *Lees*, which though in relation to my own affairs it was very inconvenient to me to hearken to, in relation to my kindneſs to her, and the diſcharge of my conſcience in ſerviceableneſs towards her in a time of ſuch diſtreſs, (wherein commonly the company of a poor puritan or ſectary is more acceptable, than that of the moſt pleaſant and quick drolls in the world) I could not refuſe it, but went the next morning. And when I came thither, found her a ſad ſpectacle indeed, her diſeaſe lying more in ſtupidneſs than pain, and in her underſtanding and ſpeech (which were both very imperfect) than in the more remote parts of her body. She was no more joyed to ſee me, though they about her endeared my viſit to her, by telling her, how I had neglected all my own concerns to come, than if ſhe had had as little, as ſhe uſed to have much kindneſs for me, when ſhe was herſelf. This, you will eaſily believe, was a mortifying encounter to me, to ſee her well enough to be out of her bed, and to retain the wonted fulneſs and almoſt colour her face had in health, and not to have any ſettled working of reaſon or plain expreſſion in ſpeech; to ſee the carcaſe of a friend there, and her ſoul gone as to any rational uſe ſhe had of it; and her kindneſs to me as dead, as her reaſonings to herſelf, or her thoughts towards God, for ought I could ſee were alſo. I ſtayed there till *Saturday*, and then by the doctors and all conſents, brought her away with me: her ſpeech in that time would ſometimes be more diſtinct, and but ſometimes; and at that ſame rate ſhe reaſoned very unfixed and unſettledly, and her head began to ſhake, and ſhe to have a ſenſe of a heavineſs in it, which confirmed the doctor's opinion of its being a ſpice of the palſy: but the doctor here thinks its root to be in the mother, yet confeſſes the cauſe of her ill to be very inward and hidden in his opinion, and therefore I doubt muſt go blindfold towards her cure, which yet advances but very little, if at all. Here I ſaw the vanity of the thoughts I had taken up of ſtaying quietly at home, becauſe this condition of hers made me judge my attendance upon her very neceſſary (though ſeriouſly my lord and lady *Warwick* and *Charles Rich* are very obligingly careful of and kind to her.) But on *Monday* after I had viſited her, at my return home I found my poor *Frank* fallen very ill: her diſtemper was ſtrongly feveriſh, and increaſed to ſuch a violence the two following days, that ſhe loſt both her ſenſe and ſpeech, and retained ſtrength enough only to diſorder and endanger herſelf. The manner of her ſickneſs gave me no ſmall apprehenſions of its being the plague; and to increaſe thoſe, an old woman, that then did and formerly had tended her, ſaid there was a riſing about one of her thighs. But God was pleaſed to give me ſo much courage upon that information, as to reſolve not to truſt the old woman's fumbling feeling, but to try myſelf, which I did, and found clearly, that ſhe was miſtaken in that particular, though ſtill ſhe appeared no leſs mortally ſick, than if it had been: that night I watched with her in expectation that it ſhould be the laſt ſhe would live; but it pleaſed God to carry her through it, and to reſtore her ſenſe and ſpeech in the morning, when alſo the ſmall-pox broke forth, and appeared then a deliverance to me; but now they are upon her a diſeaſe, and a moſt loathſome one, though God be pleaſed to preſerve me from the fear of them, and to make me able and willing to be with her, who has a face, that ſhews what ſtuff theſe bodies of our incloſe, and how little all the neatneſs of art can prevail againſt its own filthineſs, when God gives it a commiſſion to break out; and how little cauſe we have to make that the object of our pride, that is filled with ſo many leſſons of humiliation. My attendance upon her makes me know nothing of my ſiſter's condition but by report, and that makes it much the ſame. In this time poor *Fenton Parſons* is dead of a fever, after it was turned into an intermitting ague, as it is thought through being let blood unſeaſonably by one, that is called

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a doctor; but sure their trade is rather to cure men of their bodies, than to cure men's bodies of diseases. He was an honest friendly man, and of as great hopes for the things of this world, as any one of his age and profession; but one such blow lays all those hopes in the dust with us, and leaves us miserable, if we had not surer and better grounded ones, which are turned into abiding possessions, when the former perish. Thus you have a long account of my last fortnight's changes; and yet you must not be rid of me, till I have been faithful to you, in telling you, that there is not only in this place, but in this country, so general a visitation of sickness, which are for the most part fevers, fluxes, and small-pox, that there is hardly any family free from one or other of them, so as into this danger you must come, if you come hither; which if you be free from where you are, I do heartily give up your company to your safety, and to that you ought to give up all little satisfactions, that cannot be taken without it. As this scourge is upon us, so are our neighbours of *Holland* of a piece with us in this, though we be little enough one in other matters. For about *Amsterdam*, *Morian* writes, that they have scarce enough healthy people left to milk their cows. And out of *Germany* from a very good hand honest *Hartlib* has received assurance, that their very waters are turned into blood. Out of our northern parts colonel *George Fennick*, an honest and discreet man, writes, that he saw lately a cloud very black, and about the bigness of an acre of ground, in the midst whereof there was a perfect rainbow for matter of form, but for colour only a pure blue. At each end of this bow appeared men in arms, with all their warlike equipage, who did several times charge one another and with various success, till at length, as I take it, the party at the east end the bow beat the other quite away. These being set for signs and for seasons, do hereby signify something; though I think he that would dare to affirm in particular what, might be as like to mistake as hit right: but we have a sure word, that tells us, all this old frame of heaven and earth must pass, and a new one be set up in its place, and then your expectation of seven years will be abundantly answered and exceeded; but whether it will come within the seven years, I dare no more say than I do know; only this methinks I am sure of, that it is a brave thing to be one of those, that shall lift up their heads with joy in expectation of a present redemption, when all these ruins and confusions shall be upon the earth; and such brave men and women are only true Christians. Therefore, my dear brother, let us endeavour for that dignity, though in maintaining it we take courses, that have the contempt of the world heaped upon them; for to be contemned by the contemptible is glorious in the opinion of your

K. R.

IN excuse for my not writing by my brother *Frank*, I must tell you, he never told me of his going, nor heard I till he was gone. My service to him, if he be with you.

THIS is only, my brother, to tell you, that it pleased God to carry me through my journey much better than I could reasonably have expected I could have passed it, considering my preparation for it was a night full of smart pains, and almost without sleep; and that when I went into the coach, I was ill enough to have been more properly put to bed. Here we have a right prospect of what the world calls greatness, crowd, noise, heaps of meat, and drink in proportion, contrivance and pains to please the sense; vexation and fear, and in conclusion emptiness and disappointment. You are now very near the hour, wherein your mistress is, by giving herself to another, to set you at liberty from all the appearances you have put on of being a

lover; which though they coſt you ſome pains and uſe of art, were eaſier, becauſe they were but appearances. It is well, if ſhe put not herſelf by that act of bounty into more ſlavery than ſhe gives you liberty; but now ſhe muſt perfect making the venture ſhe has ſo far proceeded in. I muſt, before I free you, recommend your health to your care, as the only obligation to be put by you upon me, greater than thoſe that you have already heaped upon

Yours affectionately,
K. R.

Letters from Mr. JOHN LOCKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured Sir, *Cleve, Dec.* $\frac{12}{22}$, 1665.

I LOOK upon it as the greateſt misfortune of my journey hither, that it hath afforded me ſo little worth your notice; and that after having gone ſo far, and ſtaid ſo long, I ſhould yet ſend you ſo empty a letter. But, Sir, it is not unuſual, that a man far in debt, after long delays, ſhould pay nothing. And had I travelled through more fruitful places, and been myſelf better able to obſerve, I ſhould ſtill have been in the ſame condition, and not have been able to return any thing of what I owe to your many and great favours. We are here in a place very little conſiderable for any thing but its antiquity, which to me ſeems neither to commend things nor opinions; and I ſhould ſcarce prefer an old ruinous and incommodious houſe to a new and more convenient, though *Julius Cæſar* built it, as they ſay he did this the Elector dwells in, which opinion the ſituation, juſt on the edge of a precipice, and the oldneſs of the building ſeems to favour. The town is little, and not very ſtrong or handſome; the buildings and ſtreets irregular; nor is there a greater uniformity in their religion, three profeſſions being publicly allowed: the *Calviniſts* are more than the *Lutherans*, and the Catholics more than both (but no papiſt bears any office) beſides ſome few Anabaptiſts, who are not publicly tolerated. But yet this diſtance in their churches gets not into their houſes. They quietly permit one another to chooſe their way to heaven; for I cannot obſerve any quarrels or animoſities amongſt them upon the account of religion. This good correſpondence is owing partly to the power of the magiſtrate, and partly to the prudence and good nature of the people, who (as I find by enquiry) entertain different opinions, without any ſecret hatred or rancour. I have not yet heard of any perſon here eminently learned. There is one Dr. *Scardius*, who, I am told, is not altogether a ſtranger to chemiſtry. I intend to viſit him as ſoon as I can get an handſome opportunity. The reſt of their phyſicians go the old road, I am told, and alſo eaſily gueſs by their apothecary's ſhops, which are unacquainted with chemical remedies. This, I ſuppoſe, makes this town ſo ill furniſhed with books of that kind, there being few here curious enough to enquire after chemiſtry or experimental learning. And as I once heard you ſay, I find it true here, as well as in other places, that the great cry is ends of gold and ſilver. A catalogue of thoſe books I have met with, ſome at *Antwerp*, and ſome in this town, I here incloſed ſend you, and am told by the only bookſeller of this place, that he expects others daily from *Francfort*. The weather is here exceedingly mild, and I have not ſeen any froſt or ſnow ſince my coming; but it is an unuſual clemency of the air, and the heavens ſeem to cheriſh the heat men are in to deſtroy one another. I ſuppoſe it no news to tell you, that the *Dutch* have forced a ſurrender of *Lochem*; there marched out of it two hundred and fifty of the biſhop's men. In another rencounter the biſhop's men killed and took four hundred *Dutch* horſe: ſo that this has only ſhaked the ſcales, not much inclined them to either ſide. The ſtates of *Cleve* and *March* are met here to

to raiſe money for the elector, and he with that intends to raiſe men, but as yet declares for neither ſide: whether he be willing, or will be able to keep that neutrality I doubt, ſince methinks war too is now become infectious, and ſpreads itſelf like a contagion, and I fear threatens a great mortality the next ſummer. The plague has been very hot at *Cologne*; there have died there within this quarter of a year above eight thouſand. A gentleman, that paſſed by that town laſt week, told me, that the week before there died there three hundred and forty eight. I know theſe little trivial things are as far diſtant from what I ought to ſend you, as I am from *England:* for this I do not only blame my own preſent poverty, but deſpair of the future, ſince your great riches in all manner of knowledge forbid me the hopes of ever preſenting you with any thing new or unknown. I ſhould not therefore take the boldneſs thus to importune you, did I not know, that there is nothing ſo ſlight or barren, which you cannot force to yield you ſomething, and make an advantageous uſe of poor common things, which others throw away. This is that, which gives me the confidence to tell you, that I am,

SIR,

your moſt obedient, and
moſt faithful ſervant,
JOHN LOCKE.

SINCE I writ this I met with a Jeſuit, who had been in *Hungary*. I enquired whether he had ſeen the mines; he told me, that he had gone down into a copper mine near *Neiſol* (if I miſtake not the name) ſix hundred fathom deep; that at the bottom in a hollow of ſome bigneſs, there dropped down water, which they received in a wooden trough, wherein they caſt pieces of old iron, which by the water would be turned into good copper. That a piece of iron of the bigneſs of a man's finger would be changed in three months, and that the mutation began from the ſuperficies inwards with ſtreaks (or to uſe his word *ſtriatum*;) that he had a horſe-ſhoe, whoſe exterior part was copper, and inſide iron. I aſked him, whether it were cold or hot, he told me it was warm enough, ſo that the workmen were naked from the waiſt upward, and ſweat in working. I had not time to enquire after more particulars, being haſtily called away. He belongs to the baron *de Goes*, envoy here from the emperor. If you think this relation worth any further enquiry, or that I can any other way ſerve you here, I ſhould be glad to receive your commands, which either Mr. *Godolphin* or Mr. *Proctor Thomas* will convey to me.

Kercheri Mundus Subterraneus, fol. 1665.
Schotti Schola Steganographica, 4to. 1665.
Pet. Mich. de Hevedia Opera Medica, fol. 1665.
Heldebrandi Magia Naturalis, 4to. 1664.
Bauſchus Schediaſmata curioſa de lapide hæmatite & ætite, 8vo. 1665.
Strauſius Conatus Anatomicus, 4to. Gieſæ, 1666.
Licetus de Monſtris, 4to. Amſtelodami, 1665.
Simon Pauli de abuſu Tabaci & Theè, 4to. Argentor, 1665.
Phil. Jac. Sachs Gammarographia, 8vo. 1665.
Phil. Grulingii Medicina practica, 4to. Northuſa, 1665.
Ger. Blaſii Medicina Univerſalis, 4to. 1665.
Schookius de Sternutatione, 12mo. 1664.
Deuſingius de Generatione & Nutritione, 12mo. 1665.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Christ Church, Feb.* 24, 1666.

ACCORDING to the directions you gave in your last letter to Mr. *Thomas*, I have endeavoured to provide paronychia, and I think I shall be able to procure pretty good store of it. The fittest time I suppose to gather it will be, when it begins to be in flower, which will be about a fortnight hence, the spring hereabouts not being over forward. How I shall dispose or order it for you, I must desire to be directed. Though by your approving of that way in other like cases, I have some thoughts to pound and seal up some part of it in a bolt head, and so keep it, since the juice being the thing desired; and not being fully acquainted with the way *Helmont* mentions he made use of to preserve juices, I know not how otherwise well to keep it. In the process of ☉☉ ☿ with ☿ you did me the honour to send me, I must beg this additional favour, to know, whether in each distillation I must draw off the ☿ of ad siccitatem; for I find, that if the fire be a little augmented, the volatile ☿ being pretty well first gone over, the remaining liquor will rise in plentiful very white fumes; but I suspect this too violent a way of proceeding. After having distilled it in this manner, I let it stand above twenty-four hours to cool; and though when I took off the head from the body, it had been several hours quite cold, and my nose were not within a foot of the mouth of the body; yet there came out so quick and penetrating a steam, that it made me cry out, and made my eyes run over, but the effects of it quickly ended, and I was soon at ease again; though I dare be confident it is one of the briskest and most pungent steams in nature. Did I not know, how favourably you interpret any poor essays, and slight observations of those that are willing to learn, I should not venture to importune you with such trifles. But since my design is not (nor can ever be) to instruct you, you will permit me by all the ways I can, to assure you that I am,

Honoured Sir,
your most humble, and
most obliged servant,
JOHN LOCKE.

MR. *Thomas* presents his humble service to you. He and I are now upon a new sort of chemistry, *i. e.* extracting money out of the scholars pockets; and if we can do that, you need not fear but in time we shall have the lapis; for he that can get gold and silver out of scholars, cannot doubt to extract it any where else. The truth is, he and I are preferred to be accessors of the poll-money; and if you do not make haste hither, I believe you will at your next coming hither find us both beaten out of town, for having had too good thoughts of our neighbours, it being now an injury to believe any one rich, or a gentleman. We return our thanks for your queries by Dr. *Lower*, and intend some trials on the first opportunity.

Honoured SIR, *Christ Church, March* 24, $\frac{66}{67}$.

I SHOULD not have been so slow in returning my thanks for the great favours of your letter, had not the carelessness of the letter-carrier kept it from me two or three days after it came to town. I am concerned that you should believe this truth, and I should be very much ashamed to appear guilty of tardiness, to a person, who thinks his favours need an apology, if they are not as speedy as they are great, who is not content to oblige an undeserving scholar beyond the ordinary rules of

kindneſs, unleſs he alſo excuſe the exceſs of his obligations. Had I any ſkill in the art of ſpeaking, I ſhould on this occaſion tell you, that this is to be like the ſun, and thoſe other heavenly bodies, who are exempt from the corruption and niggardlineſs of things here amongſt us, and beſtow their light and influence conſtantly, and as it were out of neceſſity. But, Sir, the pretenſions I make to philoſophy will excuſe my want of rhetoric; and though I have but little of the knowledge, yet I ſhall make uſe of the language of a philoſopher, and content myſelf to ſpeak plainly, as I mean honeſtly; and do therefore with a ſincerity due to that profeſſion, tell you, that I have a very great ſenſe and acknowledgment of your favours, however I want words to expreſs it. The warts you ſpeak of, I doubt not but I ſhall be able to provide you in the place I am going to, though I would be glad to know, whether there hath been any difference obſerved in the operation of thoſe of ſtone-horſes, geldings, and mares, and whether they are to be taken from live horſes, ſince (if I forget not) *Helmont* ſome where ſays, that if in hyſterical fits, (for in that diſeaſe he commends them) you uſe thoſe that are taken from a horſe, *æſtuante venere*, they have different effects from others. I deſire alſo the favour to know, how much of ſp. * may be thought a large doſe, and whether it be that ſp. * which is made with ☿, whereof we have prepared ſome. The particulars of the proceſs Mr. *Thomas* has undertaken to give you an account of. Sir, having from a paſſage in your writings taken the firſt notice of the time of gathering pæony roots; and ſince finding it in the obſervations communicated to *Riverius*, where the obſerver ſays it muſt be *inclinante luna in ariete exiſtente*, which alſo *F. Wurtz* confirms with this addition, that it muſt be in *April*, when *Sol* is in *Aries*, and at a plenilunium before the riſing of the ſun. I rode to a place, where was pretty good plenty of male pæony, and on the 14th inſtant between ten and eleven in the morning had ſome of the roots dug up, and am promiſed others to be dug up on the 30th inſtant before ſun-riſing. If there be any advantage in the time of gathering, I owe the knowledge of it ſo much to you, that I ſhould be an unworthy reader of your writings, if I ſhould not return you my thanks, and offer you ſome part of thoſe roots, from whom I learnt the uſefulneſs of them; if you pleaſe to make trial, whether theſe have any more virtue than thoſe gathered at another ſeaſon, I having choſen thoſe times, that I think come neareſt to their directions. I intend to go between this and *Eaſter* into *Somerſetſhire*, where if I can do you any ſervice about *Mendipp*, or any other way, you will oblige me with the employment. It is ſo much my concernment to receive your commands, that I ſhall be ſure to give you notice where I am, and how I may receive the honour of your letters. After ſome little ſtay in that country, I hope to kiſs your hands in *London*, and I now begin to make wiſhes, that you will come hither very quickly. I am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt obedient, and

moſt obliged ſervant,

JOHN LOCKE.

MR. *Thomas* preſents his ſervice.

HAVING followed your directions the beſt I could with $\overset{a}{\nu}$, and $\circ^{\circ}\circ$ ☉i, having drawn $\overset{a}{\nu}$ from it till it comes off ſweet, I find the remaining matter when dried retains its acidity, and will not any part of it ſo diſſolve in $\overset{a}{\nu}$ as to paſs through a filter, but will eaſily make a maſh with it; but being ſet to digeſt it ſubſides, and leaves the upper part of $\overset{a}{\nu}$ clear; whether it ſhould be ſo I know not.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Exeter-houſe, Nov.* 12, 1667.

I KNOW you will pardon the ſilence of a man, that hath regard to your time, and is loth to importune you with inſignificant compliments. And I will aſſume ſo much pride to myſelf, as to believe, that you would not think me ſo fooliſh as to venture the loſs of your good opinion, or rob myſelf of the advantage of your letters, by a bare negligence, or for want of writing a few lines. This confidence of your favourable thoughts of me, and an unwillingneſs to trouble you with reading an empty letter, made me forbear ſending to you, though I muſt confeſs, I have a long time wiſhed for a fair opportunity to beg ſome communications from you, without which I ſhall be able to ſend but a very ill furniſhed letter to my friend in *Germany*. I ſome time received from him one of thoſe Scarabei I formerly mentioned to you, which I gueſs to be the *Proſcarabeus fœmina* mentioned by *Mouſet*, cap. xxiii. and would be very glad to know, whether *Jacob Bobart*, or any other, have found that kind in *England*, for he very much commends the uſe of them in the diſeaſe I told you. The place I am at preſent in, and the remove I am like to make (for I believe I ſhall once more croſs the ſeas before I ſettle) have kept me from attempting any farther experiments in chemiſtry, though I find my fingers ſtill itch to be at it, and I have not met with any thing worthy your notice. I can only inform you, that I am acquainted with a young gentlewoman, who ſome years ſince had the misfortune to have one of her legs cut off, which yet very frequently does ſo pain her, that I have heard her more than once grievouſly complain of vehement torture, ſometimes in the heel, ſometimes in the inſtep, and at other times in the toes of her dead and buried foot; and ſhe tells me, that ſometimes being wakened by the pain, ſhe has (before recollection) put her hand down to feel for the grieved part, as if her leg had not been cut off. I return you my humble thanks for that preparation of *Helmont*, and the other favours of your letter. The odoriferous oil of vitriol, if it be made by any other or ſhorter way than by digeſting $\overset{5}{\checkmark}$ on $\odot^{\circ}_{\circ}\oplus$, you will do me a favour to let me know it; for ſuch trials I may perhaps get conveniency this winter, and I would not willingly be idle, where I might be encouraged and directed by ſo kind and ſkilful a hand. But I ought not to be begging more, where I am ſo much indebted already, and have nothing to repay, but an aſſurance that I am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt obedient ſervant,

JOHN LOCKE.

Honoured SIR, *Paris, June* 4, 1677.

IF in an abſence, longer than I thought when I ſet out, I have not once writ to you after ſo many obligations, that I have to ſeek all occaſions to teſtify my reſpects to you; you will not, I hope, impute it to want of knowledge in me, or a willingneſs to decline your commands. I am not ſo inſenſible of your favours as to be guilty to that degree. And if my omiſſion be culpable, it was only out of conſideration, that being in a place, where I had no proſpect of any ſervice I could do you, I forbore to give you the trouble of an idle letter. Now I am come to this place, which is one of the great magazines of things and perſons of all ſorts, I thought, that perhaps there might be ſomething, wherein I might be here in a condition to ſerve you. And though I believe you are not much concerned to know, whether broad or narrow brimm'd hats be like to carry it this ſummer, or which is the neweſt alamode

cut of pantaloons; yet in this universal mint of new things, there are some others, that possibly you will think worth your enquiry and knowledge. In something of this kind I would be glad to have the honour of your commands; and methinks whilst the press furnishes every day new books to St. *Jaques Street*, the observatoire, laboratories, and other officinæ of the virtuosi here are so busy to produce something new, I should not be without some employment from you. I dare undertake for myself, that I shall be a very faithful and diligent factor; and you cannot blame me for desiring the employment, since I may enrich myself in it very honestly, without at all lessening any part of your returns. And to confess the truth, I have besides this another private interest of my own in it; for who ever served you in any thing without being an extraordinary gainer by it? I would beg the favour of two or three lines from your hand, to recommend me to the acquaintance of any one of the virtuosi you shall think fit here. I know your bare name will open doors, and gain admittance for me, where otherwise one like me without port and name, that have little tongue, and less knowledge, shall hardly get entrance. Pardon, I beseech you, this freedom I take; your goodness hath taught it me, and however faulty it may be, let it pass under the plausible title of *libertas philosophica*. They talk here of a little brass globe three or four inches diameter, that being wound up once a month, shews all the motions of the heavens. I am so newly come hither, and am since my late ague so ill a walker, that I have not yet seen it. But I hope in a little while my legs will come again to themselves, and be able to carry me about lustily; and then I shall be trudging up and down in quest of new discoveries. Excuse, I beseech you, Sir, the trouble and confidence of this letter, and give me leave to assure you, that I am,

Honoured Sir,

your most humble, and
most obliged servant,
JOHN LOCKE.

YOUR letters will find me, if they be directed to me, *Chez Monsieur Charas maistre apothecaire rue de Boucherie dans le Fauxbourg St. Germain à Paris.*

Honoured SIR, *Blois, August* 6, 1678.

YOU will not wonder, that I lay hold on so fair an occasion of presenting my service to you, when you reflect on the many great obligations I have to you, and that I should be very unworthy of the honour I have to be known to you, did I pass by any opportunity to express my acknowledgments. I should think it a great advantage to me, whilst I am abroad, if you would honour me with any of your commands. And if in this part of *France* I am now rambling, your curiosity had any enquiries to make, I should with great satisfaction embrace the commission, and be sure to give you an exact account. I have news from *Paris*, from an ingenious acquaintance of mine there, that a friend of his hath found out a very sensible hygrometer, which, besides marking the moistness of the air, will also be improved to wind up a pendulum; which, if it succeeds, will be a kind of perpetual motion. And a watch-maker I know there sends me word, that he is now at work upon a movement, that the air will wind up; which, I suppose, is the execution of the design my friend (who is a very good mechanic, besides an admirable scholar) sent me notice of. He also mentioned to me the extraordinary goodness of a microscope Mr. *Huygens* has brought with him out of *Holland*. But these things having happened in *Paris* since I left it, I cannot give you so perfect an account of them as I desire. When I was there, I saw

ſaw in the Charity a boy about eighteen years old, who had a kind of horns grew out in the place of his nails of almoſt all his fingers or toes; ſome of them were four or five inches long. I have a large piece of one of them, which was broke off in my preſence, and the whole hiſtory of the caſe amongſt my things at *Paris*. This accident began to grow upon him, after the ſmall-pox, about two or three years ſince. Enquiring for him a little before I came away, I was informed, that he was cured and gone. Some other things worth obſervation I have alſo light on, which would be too long to trouble you with here. And amongſt other things I have a ſmall quantity of a medicine given me, which I believe to be of great efficacy to certain purpoſes, whereof perhaps you will not be diſpleaſed to ſee the effects. I was extremely well pleaſed to hear, that the things were ſent me from the *Bahamas* were put into your hands; they could not have been placed any where ſo much to advantage, and to my deſire. For I ſhall always be exceeding glad, if any thing I have or can may ſerve to teſtify the reſpect and eſteem, wherewith I am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

J. LOCKE.

IF at any time you deſign me the honour of a letter, it is but ſending it to Sir *John Banks*'s in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, and it will find the way to me.

Honoured SIR, *Bexwells, June* 16, 1679.

TO keep my promiſe to you concerning that odd caſe I met with the laſt year at *Paris*, I here ſend you a more particular account of it.

BEING the 24th of *May*, 1678, at the hoſpital called *La Charité*, I was there ſhewed a lad between nineteen and twenty years, who had a ſort of horns grew out of all his fingers of both hands, and moſt of his toes. On the two leaſt toes of each foot there were now none, upon three whereof there had never been any, and upon the fourth, which (as I remember) was the little toe of the right foot, that which formerly grew there, was fallen off about ſix months before, and came no more, but left the nail very little different from natural. On all the reſt of his fingers and toes there were of theſe horny ſubſtances, when I ſaw him, but of very different lengths, ſome of them having began to ſprout a long time after ſome of the others, and others of them having been broken off by the ſurgeon that healed him.

THE longeſt of all was that on the middle finger of the right hand, when I ſaw him, which was three inches and nine grys long, and one inch ſeven lines in girt, of which the ſurgeon broke off a large piece, and gave me, which you may command, when you pleaſe.

THE youth told me, he had one formerly on his thumb, much longer and bigger than this on his middle finger, but it was now very ſhort, having either fallen off, or been taken off, I know not whether.

THIS horny ſubſtance grew not out of the end of the fingers, but was, as it were, a riſing of the nail, which, inſtead of growing out in length, increaſed in thickneſs; but yet it roſe not up in a ſtrait line perpendicular to the finger, but, as it lengthened, bended forwards, and ſo grew ſomewhat into the ſhape of a bird's claw, but that it was not taper and ſharp, like that, but blunt at the end, and almoſt of the ſame bigneſs all along, and full of pretty deep chaps in the convex part, but in the concave there were none at all.

THEY

THEY were very tender, especially those of his feet, so that he complained upon very gentle touching them; but this sensibility was not in the horny part, but where it joined on to the flesh, which was where the nail formerly grew, and should still have grown.

THERE grew also horny excrescences, some bigger, some less, on several parts of the backs of his hands, that rose very little above the skin; some of them looked like flat, but very broad warts, but to the touch they felt as hard as horn.

HE told me it was about three years before, that this began first to come upon him, after having had the small-pox; to the remains of which disease he imputed this accident, he having else enjoyed a health good enough, and kept the ordinary diet of his country, which was brie.

ABOUT a week after, I went to the *Charité*, to see him again, and then, after having been twice purged, some of the horns of his fingers began to loosen at the roots.

I WENT thither again to see him, some time after, but he was gone perfectly cured, as they told me; and that the chief things were done to him were, purging and bathing.

BEFORE I conclude, I must not forget to tell you, that the measure I made use of was the philosophical foot, *i. e.* $\frac{1}{3}$ of a pendulum of seconds, which I divided thus: the foot into ten inches, the inch into ten lines, the line into ten grys; so that a gry is $\frac{1}{1000}$ part of P P; which measure, whatever it be for other purposes, I thought the fittest for philosophical communications, and therefore made use of it in this and several other occasions. But I have troubled you too long already to mention here the conveniencies of this foot, and (as I think) of the way of dividing it by decimals.

I KNOW you think the works of nature worth taking notice of, and recording too, even when she seems extravagant and out of her way. This must be my excuse for sending you this long, and (as it would be to another) tedious story, to assure you, that I am with the utmost respect,

Honoured Sir,

your most humble, and

most obedient servant,

J. LOCKE.

SIR, *Amsterdam, Oct.* 10, 1687.

YOUR goodness, I promise myself, has preserved me a place in your memory, however I may seem to have taken little care of it myself. And you will easily forgive me a silence, which, though in all this time of my absence it has not afforded you a word, yet has had nothing of forgetfulness in it, or want of respect. Whilst I met with nothing on this side the water, that I thought worth the communicating to you, I believed myself dispensed from importuning you with my letters. For those of bare civility and compliment I know you neither want nor desire. But this inclosed paper newly falling into my hands, fresh from the press, and carrying with it the air of something more intelligible and sincere, than is usually found in this sort of writings, I could not satisfy the desire I always have to render you any service I can imagine may be acceptable to you, without sending it you as speedily as I could; especially since I can add this farther concerning it: that I am told by a knowing man, and an acquaintance of the publisher, that he has reason to think, that the whole work, whereof these aphorisms are but the skeleton, if it were published, would far exceed all that is yet extant on this subject. I shall be glad, if I may be capable

capable of doing you any other ſervice, whilſt I am in this country. Whenever I ſhall be ſo happy, be pleaſed but to ſend your commands incloſed to your acquaintance, Mr. *Benjamin Furley*, at *Rotterdam*, and they will be conveyed to me. I am,

SIR,

your moſt humble
and moſt obedient ſervant,
J. LOCKE.

Honoured SIR, *Oates, Oct.* 21, 1691.

BY this bearer, my ſervant, who comes to town on purpoſe, you will receive your papers concerning the titles of the air. I have read them all over very carefully, numbered them according to the titles they belong to, and laid them in that order, the beſt I could, according to the ſtate they are in. I have beſides corrected many of the miſtakes of your amanuenſes; but yet, for all this, they are not in a condition to be ſent to the printer, or put into a bookſeller's hand, in order to publiſhing. For beſides that they are not all laid in the order of the titles they belong to, it often happening, that thoſe of different titles are writ in the ſame paper, which I would not venture to cut in pieces, without your direct order; and ſome of them being writ on both ſides the leaf, cannot be cut; and therefore I have contented myſelf only to mark in the margin the title each belongs to: beſides this, I ſay, there are ſome faults in the writing, which, without conſulting you, I durſt not correct; and in other places defects and omiſſions, which I could not ſupply; and many things, which ſuggeſt queries, which I think fit to adviſe with you about. I know not whether you think it neceſſary to haſten the edition of them. If upon that or any other account you deſire my coming to town, I ſhall not fail, upon the firſt ſummons, to wait upon you. I have with them ſent a copy of my regiſter of the air, and in ſome few places made ſome little additions to the obſervations of your papers, as you will ſee; and I doubt not, but, if one had time, one might find many more. Beſides the many ſtrange and pleaſant remarks your papers contain, and uncommon experiments you have made yourſelf about the air, your deſign opens a large and uſeful field, and I muſt confeſs gives me a larger view than I had before of this ſubject, which yet I have a long time thought deſerved as much to be conſidered, as any part of nature; and which your diſcoveries had ſo much recommended to the ſtudy of all inquiſitive men. But enough of the air on this occaſion. Give me leave now to tell you, that I have water, and I have veſſels, I only want ſoap to be at work. Whatſoever you ſhall give this bearer for me will be ſafely brought me. I hope he will bring me good news of your health, and I ſhall be glad to receive the honour of your commands by him. I am,

Honoured Sir,
your moſt humble, and
moſt obliged ſervant,
J. LOCKE.

I HAD forgot to mention above, that I have a little altered ſome of your titles, the better, as I think, to accommodate them to the papers are to be ranged under them. You will find the alterations I propoſe writ on the backſide of the printed titles, and I know you will pardon this preſumption, ſince I ſhould not make a right uſe of the freedom you expect from me, ſhould I not without reſerve offer my thoughts to you.

AT

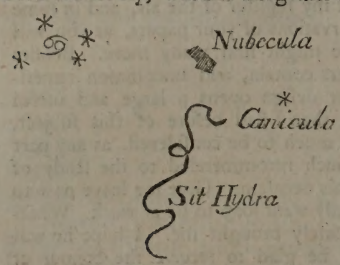
AT the end of all you will find ſome papers, which I am in ſome doubt about, whether they ought to have any room at all amongſt the other.

WHENEVER you have any commands for me, a letter left at my lodging in *Dorſet-court* in *Channel-row*, will be conveyed to me.

Letters from Mr. AUBREY *to Mr.* BOYLE.

SIR, *Eaſton-Pierſe, March* 15, 1665.

I HAVE here ſent you, tranſcribed with my ill hand, Mr. *Pell*'s *Idea*, which, I doubt not, but will be very welcome to you. I humbly beg your pardon, that I could not find it ſooner, having, ever ſince I had the honour to wait on you, been diverted by ſeveral buſineſſes. I was overjoyed with the good news, which you told me of, that Mr. *Pell* was about finiſhing his Algebraical Treatiſe; I hope it is the *Mathematicus* Αὐτάρκης. I have long been ſo perplexed with the unpleaſant affairs of this earthen world, that I cannot mind ſo much as I would the intellectual one; and ſo am not capable to make you ſuch returns of diſcoveries and fine things, as you expect, and I wiſh. Hereafter, I ſhall be able to add ſomething to your Hydroſtatics, but they being at preſent unfiniſhed, I will not offer them now; yet as to that part they are, and long ſince by me propoſed, at *Greſham* college, with the ill ſucceſs as not to be taken notice of, the experiment being not rightly made. Upon *Candlemas-eve* laſt was twelvemonth (which was ſhortly after the appearance of ſeveral comets) about ten at night accidentally looking on a ſerene ſky, I took notice of a nubecula, much brighter than any part of the via lactea, and about five times as big as *Sirius*. I ſhortly after ſhewed it to my ingenious neighbour colonel *Long*, and another neighbour: when the moon ſhines not too bright, it is very eaſily ſeen, and remains yet; but I cannot ſay, whether altogether ſo bright. It lies almoſt in a right line, between the bright ſtar of the little dog and ♋, and it is near upon over the head of *Hydra*. After a month's time, you will with difficulty find it, by reaſon of the lightſomeneſs of the ſky. Hereafter, when God ſhall bleſs me with a little more peace, I ſhall make bold to ſend you ſeveral experiments, ſome whereof may not be ungrateful. I would willingly take the hardineſs to deſire your reſolve in this *Georgic* problem. There is a ſort of huſbandry upon the downs called *Burnebeking*, which is to dig up the ſurface of the barren downs, and make little hillocks of the turfs, and then ſet them on fire; afterwards ſcatter the burnt earth, and then plough it, and it will yield for ſeven, eight, nine years, or more, a wonderful increaſe, but afterwards never bear any thing, even ſo much as good graſs, in the age of a man. For the proverb is, It is good for the father, but naught for the ſon; for it is left *à terra damnata*. It would be an excellent diſcovery to bring ſuch land to its former ſtate; and I am confident you are able to reſolve it *primo intuitu*. I do believe, (but for a great quantity of down it would not be *tanti*) that urine well ſcattered would go near to do the buſineſs. My obſervations of my Turquois, I will ſend you about a month hence, with ſome other ruſtic ones, ſome whereof I do not diſdain to learn from ignorant old women. But becauſe you have encouraged me, and honoured me ſo much with your favour, I have preſumed to offer to you theſe rude and haſty lines, which otherwiſe I ſhould not have had the



confidence to do, to a perſon of your eminence and ingenuity. Thus humbly begging your pardon, I ſubſcribe myſelf in haſte,

SIR,

your moſt obedient, and
moſt humble ſervant,
JO. AUBREY.

SIR, you would much oblige, in preſenting my humble ſervice and reſpects to my noble lord *Brereton*, and his ingenious friend Mr. *Pell*.

IF you have any commands to lay on me, be pleaſed to direct yours from *London* to the poſt-houſe in *Chippenham*; from *Oxon*, to *Kingſton St. Michael*.

SIR, *Hothfield, Sept.* 6, 1672.

I SUPPOSE it is not unknown to you, that Mr. *Wood*, of *Merton* college, hath writ the Hiſtory of the Univerſity of *Oxford*, which is in the preſs. In every houſe he mentions the writers there bred, whoſe lives he traces from their cradles to their graves: he correſponds much with me to give him aſſiſtance herein, and lately, among other queſtions, deſires me to ſend him an account of Mr. *Saunderſon*, who writ the life of king *Charles* I. who died at *Lees*, the earl of *Warwick*'s, where (by my lady) I underſtand you now are. Sir, you will oblige Mr. *Wood* and myſelf very much, if you will deſire one of your ſervants to make enquiry,

WHERE Mr. *Saunderſon* was born?

WHAT employment or preferments he had?

IF he writ any thing elſe?

WHEN, and where, he died, and was buried? and his epitaph, if any?

He was of *Trinity* college.

LET your ſervant ſend the beſt account of theſe queries he can, to Mr. *Wood*, at *Merton* college. He hath made a collection in this method of above 800 writers. I humbly deſire your pardon for giving you this trouble of reading it; but it being to carry on ſo public a work, I preſume the more on your goodneſs.

MY lord of *Thanet*, and my lady (your pious and ingenious niece) remember them kindly to you. My lord is much hypochondriac; I told him of aſhen rinds infuſed in white wine, which I know hath to my relations done great good. His lordſhip intends to take it, but commanded me firſt to deſire you to acquaint him, when, how much, and how long he muſt uſe it; which, though I conceive it be *ad libitum*, yet, for his lordſhip's ſatisfaction, I would deſire you to let him know your opinion. I reſt,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate and
moſt humble ſervant,
JO. AUBREY.

SIR, if you would be pleaſed to look in your cabinet for my *Turky* ſtone ring, you would much oblige me: I would make ſome further obſervations on it.

SIR, I newly have received a letter from *Herefordſhire*, from Mr. *Hoſkyns*, wherein is this recipe for Mr. *Hooke*, if he mends not upon milk. He ſays, an old man near him begged his landlord to give his children one year's purchaſe of his eſtate (for life) and he would ſurrender; but his landlord thought of entering in a month's time. A beggar woman adviſed the conſtant uſe of new butter-milk, which recovered him from his maraſmus, and preſerved him thirty years, to bury his landlord, and his landlord's heir.

Letters from Mr. COLEPRESSE *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Much honoured SIR, *Underwoode* near *Plymouth*, *Aug.* 28, 1666.

MY occaſions not permitting me, till yeſterday, to view the cave mentioned ſome time ſince by his majeſty to you, I humbly offer this imperfect account of it, having not as yet the conveniency of ſeeing what the earl of *Bath* hath ſecured in his cloſet in the Fort Royal (in which this place is) which I gueſs, by hearſay, to be not much other than great iſicles. The cavity I conceive to be natural, lying on the edge of a clift towards the ſouth, though there are many looſe uneven pieces within it: it is generally above and beneath uneven, ſhooting itſelf into many cranies: the top, or roof, is about five or ſix feet deep from the ſuperficies of the earth; its height is about ſixteen feet, and fifteen feet ſquare, beſides the nooks. The marble, or rock, of itſelf is of colour a dark blue, but hath a coat, or cruſt of darkiſh yellow, which is the deſcending water (though a rocky, dry, and barren place over) there firmly petrified. Iſicles, ſome of a very great compaſs and length, others leſs, were in it, but now it is left naked: but that which cauſed my admiration moſt, was (what had eſcaped others, as the diggers told me, having otherwiſe no different matter from other caves of the like nature) *viz.* certain veins of a very ſoft matter, which being preſſed, but gently, though in the hand, yields two parts in three of water. I cannot demonſtrate it better, than by curds and whey, it being exceeding white, though other ſome partaking more or leſs of a red, which colours our country marble; by which I labour to ſatisfy myſelf of the degrees of natural petrification, which I as yet never heard any to diſcourſe of, ſo I could never meet with a more apt and certain demonſtration, which I perceived a little in the iſicles. This place, though natural, from many imperfect relations conjoined I gather to have been opened before; finding great bones (ſuppoſed of horſes) in the entrance into it: and, as it hath been *Æolus*'s palace a long time, it is now to be dedicated to *Bacchus*, being intended for a wine-cellar. Sir, if any of theſe curds be worth a ſecuring, on the leaſt intimation from you, I ſhall double my intended quantity, which will be ſpeedily, or not at all, they daily endeavouring to bring it to a better form. Noble Sir, you ſee into what depth of preſumption I have plunged myſelf, that I might comply with your deſires, humbly imploring the favour to be eſteemed

Your honour's moſt humble,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

SIR, I have ſome other things, (ſeeming rarities to me) which I now forbear, fearing I prove tedious in this: but of them hereafter, if my mouth prevent not my pen. I have begun my collection of minerals for you already; neither doth Sir *William Strode* forget the loadſtones.

Noble SIR, *Underwoode*, nigh *Plymouth*, *Feb.* 1, 1666-7.

WHEN I waited on your honour laſt in *London*, you were pleaſed to commit ſome queries about mines to my cuſtody, with a requeſt (which I ever eſteem as my command) to give you ſome ſatisfaction concerning our weſtern mines, by anſwering them; the which ſhould I by delays or negligence diſobey, I could not in reaſon expect to be accounted ſo much your (faithful, though unworthy) ſervant, as indeed I am. I have therefore incloſed a ſhort and haſty account. Such as it is, I humbly offer to your candid view. Indeed the ſhortneſs of time, illneſs of the ſeaſon, emergency

emergency of other avocations ſince my return, and want of convenient inſtruments, have much added to its imperfection; which I hope will the ſooner be excuſed, ſeeing it is neither my profeſſion, nor can I arrogate (as yet) the title of novice in mineral affairs; I can ſcarce intitle myſelf to them, otherwiſe than by compoſing and tranſcribing. For I muſt ingenuouſly acknowledge the greateſt part of them to be received from your worthy friend, my noble *Mæcenas*, *viz.* Sir *William Strode*, who gives his humble and hearty ſervice to you; who has newly opened the mine, you were pleaſed to afford your aſſiſtance in obtaining the leaſe for; and has already met with a firm load of magnetic ore, whoſe virtue much exceeds that formerly found on the top, having taken up ſome of an hundred and fifty pounds bulk. There is a reddiſh brown ſpar in it. They meet with antimonial ore alſo, and hope to make ſome farther diſcoveries in it. The miners, that dig in this work, find their right arm to be much pained, eſpecially when they grow thoroughly warm in their beds: their hands likewiſe are for ſome ſmall time contracted, and as it were ſcrimmed, by handling the magnetic ore, with its earth about it. The antimonial ſpirits or ſteams cauſe them (ſtrong healthy perſons) to vomit and purge luſtily. In his ordinary tin-mines he has lately met with ſeveral ſtrange loads, as ſome of marchaſites, and black ſtone; ſome with marchaſites in clay; and other ſome being broken very like the *Guinea* ore you gave me in *Oxford*; of which, and others, if you pleaſe to command any quantity to be ſent you up, Sir *William Strode* has ordered me to acquaint you, they are ready; or if you ſhall be pleaſed to reſpite them, till you come down into theſe parts, for Sir *William Strode* lays hold on your promiſe made to his ſons (who tender their moſt humble ſervice to you) of viſiting him, and thoſe parts, this ſpring, where you will find a moſt hearty welcome, and it may be ſome content, in the many ocular demonſtrations our mines and country may afford you, and may not fail of any thing convenient for an elaboration. Sir *William Strode* hopes you have not forgot the promiſed improvements of tin. Sir, the ill luck I had in my glaſſes (having broken all in carriage, except the tube, which you gave me; and that too, a ſeven-night ſince, juſt as I was about to fill it with mercury, provided for that purpoſe; which unhappy accident ſuddenly daſhed all my great hopes of the future contentment I promiſed myſelf in making experiments in the depth of mines, on the top of high hills, and on the ſea, at ſome diſtance from the land, and other places with it) makes me become an humble ſuitor to your honour for more, encouraged by your noble promiſe of baroſcopes, thermometers, hygroſcopes, inſtruments to find the degrees of heat and cold by a glaſs bubble in a cylinder of glaſs filled with water, inſtruments to weigh water by caſting them into it, and inſtruments (if of glaſs) to meaſure the ſtrength of the wind; humbly requeſting, that the glaſs tubes for the *Torricellian* experiment may have *Hermes*'s ſcale, becauſe there is ſomewhat more in melting the glaſs, than I am aware of. The carrier, that I employ to bring them down for me, comes out of *London* to-morrow three weeks, *viz.* the 23d of *February*; before which time my friend Mr. *Batten* ſhall wait on your honour, for directions of incloſing them the ſafeſt way, who will ſee them carefully delivered unto the carrier. I humbly beg your pardon, as for my confidence in begging (aſſuring your honour, if any benefit may accrue by their uſe, and obſervation, it ſhall moſt gratefully be returned, only the pleaſure detained to compenſate my pains) ſo for my boldneſs in giving you the trouble to read me,

Your honour's moſt humble admirer,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

SIR, if you desire any further satisfaction to any particular queries, I shall be ready to perform it to the utmost of my power.

Inclosed in the preceding.

Answers to the queries of the honourable Robert Boyle, *touching mines in* Devonshire *and* Cornwall, Feb. 1, 1666-7.

Tit. 1. 1. OUR country is generally mountainous, distinguished with vales, the hills much elevated, unequal in height, fruitful enough in the summer time to feed cattle and sheep, temperate, but exceeding rocky and solid, running confusedly in ridges, from west to east, nothing parallel the one to the other.

2. THOUGH the mountains in winter be exceeding cold, yet in the vallies they feed both oxen and sheep all the winter at grass, most commonly without hay.

3. HORSES, bullocks, and sheep, all of an ordinary size, colour, shape, longevity; the two last making very good meat, rather exceeding your eastern flesh in sweetness.

4. OUR inhabitants, especially in the most mineral places, are very healthy, and live commonly to a great age.

5. THIS country is well furnished with brooks, rivers, springs, and other waters; some physical, for inward receptions, others for outward applications, most of them well conditioned: the like counties for plenty of rivers are not to be found in *England.*

6. THE air is variable by reason of the mountains, mines, rivers, rivulets, and nearness of the sea, whose variation in short time might considerably be made known by the help of the thermometer, barometer, hygroscope, *&c.* had, or could I get any in those parts so remote from the place, where they may be obtained.

Tit. 2. 7. EVERY vein, whether of metal, marble, or slate, alters the soil over it, both in colour and nature; of our marble, red, white, grey, blue and black, well polished, are made curious tables, tombs, monuments, and clovel-pieces; and the best, whitest, and most durable lime.

Tit. 3 8, 9. THE signs of mines are commonly on the surface of the earth, from whence usually by art the load is trained.

10. IT has been observed in ground, through which the load of the silver mine at *Beere Ferris*, in our county, may probably pass, that certain places of the same mould and depth with the rest of the same field, neither bore corn, though manured, ploughed, and ordered in all respects as the rest of the field, or keep grass of the like length or greenness, but is quickly as it were burnt up, even in the winter: yet good mines, especially of tin, have been found in land worth three pounds *per* acre (no common price with us) as well as bad, and barren, but commonly in barren ground.

11. TREES and plants (for ought has been observed to the contrary) prosper alike.

12. PEBBLES of all colours, weights, degrees of hardness, even to the best porphyry, are found with us.

13. MUNDICK, or maxy, in tin-mines, makes the waters loathsome to taste, and smell, and gives them a bluish reem on the top; so does the silver ore; but for their containing of minerals must be deferred, till farther examination by evaporation, and convenient instruments for that purpose, be obtained.

14. SNOW lies not any considerable time, nor frost continues beyond what it doth in other places supposed to be devoid of metals.

15. FUTURE

15. FUTURE curioſities may inform, where common and blunt obſervations at preſent can give no certain intelligence.

16. IT is not only a common and received opinion amongſt our common miners, but even verified by the teſtimonies of ocular witneſſes of fiery meteors ſeen in the air by night (which they term the fiery dragon) to have its motion very ſwift from the orifice of one ſuppoſed mine, to the orifice of another neigbouring known one, by which ſome have been encouraged to open. Ignis lambens, and Jack with a whiſp, and a waze, as they term it, are frequent in our parts; ſome of which I have this winter been an eye witneſs of.

17. IN cold mornings great ſteams are obſerved to ariſe out of the orifice of opened mines; and they of *Beere-mine* prove not only copious, but very offenſive to the ſmell.

18. BY report the virg. divin. has been uſed in thoſe parts with good ſucceſs.

19. ONLY the ſhode, which lies upon the ſuperficies of the earth, and in the adjacent rivers and brooks.

20. THERE are clays, marles, and earths, by which the load is adjudged to be nigh; but they are ſo differing and varying, in reſpect of their depths, and colour, as can ſcarce be reduced to any certain rule.

21. MARCHASITES are found; but it is moſt commonly the mineral ſtone, that is looked for.

22. STONES are known by their colour, weight, grute, and countenance of ore.

23. CHANGE of earth adviſes where to look after it.

24. THERE are no known or perceivable damps above ground, thereby to indicate a mine; for they may ariſe, where is no mine within ſeven miles.

25. SOMETIMES they meet with water before they come to the load, but when they come to the load itſelf, they meet with the greateſt ſtream, which is carried through the heart (as they ſpeak) of the load.

26. BY the ſhode under the ſuperficies of the earth.

27. FINDING no ſhode, ſignifies their loſs of the load.

28. THE diſtinct and determinate kind of metals, or minerals, is known by the ſhode alſo, the plenty, by its ponderouſneſs.

29. WHEN they come to the ſhelf, they know that the load, or ſome ſtring, is nigh at hand —— but

30. IF, when they come to the ſhelf, they find no ſhode, or meet not with a ſtring, they know they have miſſed the load, or intended place.

31. THE ſhaft is commonly five, ſix, or ſeven, ſometimes ten or twelve feet deep. Tit. 4.

32. TIN uſually runs eaſt and weſt, ſeldom north and ſouth. In the higheſt mountains of *Dartmore* it dips towards the ſouth, in the lower mountains towards the north; ſome dip more, ſome leſs, ſome perpendicular. Sometimes it runs horizontal. It has frequent flexures north, and ſouth, and commonly retains the ſame form in ſeveral loads.

33. SOME five or ſix feet long, and half as broad, perpendicular.

34. THEY are ſupported with timber, where it needs, which happens not always through the compactedneſs of the ſoil; but when it does, they uſe four feet ſtrong laths, three wall plates, and three feet ſtemples, which, if of good oak, may laſt ſeven years.

35. ONE air-ſhaft (in caſe of a damp) three feet broad, and five feet long, two fathoms diſtance from the groove, and as many from that again to another, if neceſſity require it.

36. THEY

36. THEY meet with plenty of waters (as before) in the heart of the load.

37. THEY increaſe ſo much in the winter, that they oft enforce them to deſiſt from working. They diminiſh in the ſummer. For the proportions, they are not ſo curious.

38, 39. COMMON pumps, winders with barrels, ſome with bags; where a conveniency is, they make an adite, which they begin at the bottom, or loweſt place, and ſo drive up on a level, till they come to the work.

40. GREAT damps commonly ariſe from mundick in the tin-mines, which perceived aforehand by the miners, through the filthy ſmell and dimneſs of their candles, immediately makes them give over, and leave the mine, till they make their air-ſhaft. Three men, ſome four years ſince, were killed by the ſudden damps in a tin-mine, called St. *Anne*'s, ſome eight miles beyond *Truro* in *Cornwall*.

41, 42. OUR common miners make no known uſe of the magnetic-needle.

43. THEY ſometimes uſe fire, made of hard wood and furſe, to ſoften and calcine the great rocks they meet with; ſometimes getting ſixty ſeams, or horſe-loads, out of one rock.

44. THIS happening but ſeldom, the inconveniencies are leſs, and not obſervable.

45. SLEDGES of twenty pounds apiece, and gads which are uſually new pointed every week at leaſt.

46 IN ſummer they work cloathed in their waiſtcoats of thick cloth, and jerkins; but in the winter only in their ſhirts. They uſually burn two candles a day (which is but eight hours, winter or ſummer) of twelve to the pound.

48. THEY get it up in barrels, and hollow trees made to keebles, by winders at the top.

Tit. 5. 49. TIN uſually lies in a vein, or load, as it were a wall between two rocks, which is obſerved in the ſilver-mine throughout. It is ſometimes interſperſed in the firm rock; it is very oft found in grains, live gravel, which is termed grain, or ſtream tin, and the works called ſtream works. Sometimes it runs out of its harder conſiſtence into a clay; as Sir *William Strode*, ſince my return, has found a very ſpecious metal in clay, which is ponderous. Sometimes the load runs along in a free ſoil, without any teguments of medium or any petrified body, between the load and ſoil.

50. No metal (only that little gold as yet found with us excepted) is found complete, or neat, in our parts.

51. THE gold is found in thin plates of different dilatations, ſometimes like ſhot, but not obſerved as yet to keep any ſhape or figure of other bodies deſigned by nature.

52. THERE is no exact proportion of diſtance from the ſurface of the earth obſerved by nature; for ſometimes it is nigher, ſometimes farther off.

53. TIN ſeldom has a twofold coat, more oft a ſingle ſpar. The ſilver mine has always a twofold coat, ſomewhat like the ſkin in man.

54. TIN has, in ſome few places (to its prejudice) ſtore of mundick mixed with it. There are ſeveral ſorts of weed mixed with the tin, as mundick, white like ſilver, yellow like to gold, calx, ire-mould, daxe, *&c.*

55. THE anſwer annexed to this quere may not be augmented.

56. MOST commonly incloſed on every ſide.

57. TIN loads are ſometimes two or three feet over, at a little diſtance ſcarce an inch over: digging perpendicular (which way the common miners ſuppoſe the load to be got down to the center of the earth) they find it to ſpread, and then grow narrow

narrow again. The teguments are uſually proportionable to the vein, or load included.

58, 59, 60, 61. SOMETIMES it runs out into very ſmall veins, which as it were loſe themſelves in the earth; ſometimes degenerates into a clay, as before; ſometimes into ſtone.

62. THERE may be different ores (in reſpect of goodneſs) found in one load, which are differenced by the terms of fat and poor.

63. BIGNESS of the grain imports the fatteſt tin.

64. THREE gallons (containing about ſixty pounds *per* gallon) of black tin, that is prepared for the fire, commonly produces an hundred pounds of metal, at one hundred and twenty pounds to the hundred. But ſome metal yields more, ſome leſs.

65. OUR tin ore very frequently is mixed with mundick, cale, daze, *&c.* our iron with gold and antimony.

66. TIN always, even that which is found in grains, muſt be prepared, though the latter with more eaſe, by ſtamping, or knocking mills, which reduce the whole body to a very ſmall ſand; after which it undergoes a ſeparation, in water, which carries away the heterogeneous bodies, leaving the ore behind, ſunk to the bottom. Tit. 6.

67. By reaſon the extraction of noble metals is ſo little practiſed at preſent (but may in time be more) in thoſe parts, I muſt be ſilent in this practical account.

68. TIN and ſilver ore are not expoſed to the open air, or rain, as preparatives; yet our old tinners ſay, that tin rails being expoſed for ſeven years, the mundick is rotten, and the tin receives an heart.

69. BEATING, or ſtamping (as before) is always a preparative for the furnace. And burning is always uſed in the tin ore, which contains any mundick, to burn away the mundick, which is burnt without wind in half an hour's time (and it is obſervable, that while the mundick is burning away, the flame is exceeding blue; and not only the men, that conſtantly attend the fire, whilſt it is burning, do ſometimes break forth about the mouth and face after a ſtrange manner; but even the cattle, which graze where the fuliginous and fumous matter of the mundick may be ſuppoſed to fall, loſe almoſt all their hair) but then the black tin is taken out of the fire, cooled of its ſelf, re-waſhed, and caſt up again.

70. No flux-powders are uſed in tin.

71. THEY melt their tin ore by the force of fire.

72. No conſiderable difference in the furnaces.

73. AN account to this and others may be expected hereafter.

74. THIRTY packs of charcoal (made of oak, but principally of furſe, which by experience is found to run the metal ſooner, and waſte leaſt, each pack containing three buſhels of eighteen gallons to the buſhel) laſt a whole week: yet in *Devonſhire* they uſually burn moor, or turf-coal (with good ſucceſs) at a very cheap rate. In *Cornwall* they have uſually run down eight hundred pounds of ordinary (but one thouſand pounds of the beſt) ore in a tide, as they term it, which is twelve hours; with us ſcarce the moiety of it, to which the *Corniſh* men reduce their proportion, for by running down ſo much, the greatneſs of their fire rather burns, than melts their ore, loſing thereby above one in four.

75. No additament is uſed for tin.

76. THE tin ore is melted with a wind actuated by the blaſt of bellows moved by an over-ſhoot water-wheel.

79. THE metal being melted, runs down into a float, and from thence laden out with an iron ladle into various moulds.

80. WHICH

80. WHICH are cut according to fancy in moor-ſtone; letting the metal cool of its own accord.

81. THEY rectify the fire and wind, if it either be exceſſive, or defective: the ſkill and cunning of melting eſpecially conſiſting in this particular, *viz.* the degree of fire and wind.

82. To take out the droſs, or mundick, which ſometimes remain, they are enforced to melt down their metal again.

83. IF there remain any droſs, it is always in the bottom of the globe.

84. THE beſt metal comes down firſt; only in one work it is obſerved, that the beſt comes laſt.

85, 86. THE more it has of mundick, or other weed, the leſs price it yields; for ſometimes a globe may be tardy ten pounds.

87. THIS (as above) ſometimes happens in tin, to get out the remaining mundick. Their preparation is only to chop it in little bits, or pieces, and ſo throw it up, as before.

88. THERE are ſome corpuſcles elevated, which for the greateſt part, are a metalline flower (though ſome are eaſy enough to be diſtinguiſhed) reducible into a maſs, without any conſiderable diminution of its ponderouſneſs.

89. IN the common tin-ore one thouſand pounds of tin yields three hundred pounds of ſlag; which, being prepared in the ſtamping-mill, is thrown up again into a furnace, which yield ſome conſiderable portion of tin.

90. THE tin-ſlag may, by being expoſed to the open air and rain for a time, be ſooner prepared in the mill, and melted down; but whether it yields more, or better metal, I cannot yet underſtand.

Noble SIR, *Underwoode, March* 19, 1666-7.

THAT my ſenſible acknowledgments of your great favours had been no ſooner on their way to attend your honour, proceeded not from that abominated principle of ingratitude, but my obligement to be at our aſſizes held at *Exon* the laſt week: and therefore am the eaſier induced to hope for your pardon of a conſtrained backwardneſs in returning my moſt humble thanks for the box of glaſſes, which came ſafe to *Plymouth*, *March* 5, but the two water-gages were by a great froſt broken, *March* 7, before they came to my hands. I hope you have received by this time a box of ores, which by Sir *William Strode*'s order I ſent away from *Brent*, *March* 1, principally intended for preſent experiments, not for your mineral repoſitory; for which I am daily ſolicitous to prepare a box of mine own collection of the diverſities of ores, weeds or marchaſites, clays, and earths, our mines and country afford, together with a diſcourſe of the art of training, digging, dreſſing, and blowing of metals, as an addition to what I formerly (though haſtily) preſented your honour with on the like ſubject. But this I fear may not be ſo quick effected, as otherwiſe I could wiſh; ſeeing he muſt patiently wait, not only for a bare opportunity, but even a good humour, wherein to treat with our ſkilful miners, that intends to receive any ſatisfaction to his demands of this nature. That unlucky humour of ſullen and ſurly reſervedneſs being commonly annexed, not only to the ſkilful, yea and pitifully ignorant profeſſors thereof, but even the profeſſion itſelf: and here I muſt humbly beſeech you not to conſtrue it a wilful neglect in me, if it come not ſuddenly. I had the good luck to meet with this good humour once, which I was not over-backward to improve by getting an ample account of training; neither do I doubt (in time) of the reſt. Sir, I was lately, by the common bruit of a new metal found in ſuch a place, invited to view the ſaid place (though ſome

ſome miles diſtant from me) not altogether loſing my labour (yet meeting with no other metal than the black flint in its embryo;) for in a perpendicular body of ſand (ariſing even with the ſurface of the earth in the ſide of a high cliff) ſome forty feet over, incloſed on each ſide with huge continued rocks of marble; I obſerved a little vein of odd clay about four inches thick, and five over, to run quite through the middle of the ſand horizontal. Its colour is much red, mixed with ſome ſtreaks of white, exceeding cloſe and ponderous; eaſily diviſible into angulous forms, much like the little ſhelfy ſtone, which induces me to believe it is the marble (of that colour) in its embryo, though by many degrees more petrified than ſome ſuch ſuppoſed matter I formerly ſaw, and, as I remember, gave you an account of, obſerved in the (ſometime talked of) cave at *Plymouth* (this place is not far from it.) Its taſte is ſo pleaſingly ſweet, and its matter ſo fat, that I could ſcarce content my palate with the modicum of an ordinary trial. In the ſame ſand I found an earth of a blackiſh colour, running confuſedly in veins alſo very fat and light; of a ſweet taſte, and pleaſant ſmell, being chaffed between the fingers, colouring them and paper with an indifferent glaſs, on which I immediately writ without any great difficulty, though laid on pretty thick, without any mixture of a moiſt body, yet lying dry in a box (in a chamber) above theſe five weeks.

I CANNOT pretend to ſuch a compliance with Sir *William Strode*'s deſires, as his merits and my many obligations lead me to, without acquainting you, that we have an old woman in our parts, who is eminent for the cure of what has been accounted the opprobium medicorum, *viz.* the opening and clearing of the obſtructions of the milt when diſordered, only by the exquiſite ſenſe of her hand performed by ſtroking the reſpective vein without any other perceivable ceremony: a good experiment whereof ſhe has wrought on Mr. *Charles Strode*, the youngeſt of the two gentlemen, that were with me in *London*, who was for ſome time ſenſible of a continual and almoſt inſupportable pain in his left ſide, and ſhoulder, who felt the pain to fly from place to place under the good woman's hand, immediately after a quarter of an hour's ſtroking; and the place in his ſide, where his pain (juſt before ſtroking) lay, to be very hollow, even to admiration. She has performed moſt notable cures of this nature.

WHAT you mentioned concerning minver ore, *viz.* lead and antimony, I am ignorant of; neither doth Sir *R. W.* remember that he preſented you with any ſuch; but if it be any, that was preſented you by my hands, you may have any quantity you ſhall be pleaſed to command. Fondly perſuading myſelf, that ſuch relations will not be overmuch diſpleaſing to your honour, I have given the greater liberty to my ſcribbling pen, humbly craving your pardon for being too tedious, and leave to ſubſcribe,

Your honour's deeply obliged,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

WE want not waters, but inſtructions how to make good vitriol. Juſt now the abovementioned old woman came in, who tells me ſhe had this ſkill communicated to her by a *Dutch* ſurgeon of a ſhip brought in priſoner to *Plymouth* about forty-eight years ſince, living in the houſe as a ſervant then, where this *Dutchman* performed a notable cure on her maſter: but he added, that ſhe never would be perfect in this ſkill, till ſhe had ſeen a perſon opened, which ſhe did about twenty-years ſince, from which time ſhe has never failed in the cure. She has publickly profeſſed it theſe ten years, and is now teaching her daughter the ſaid ſkill.

SIR, *Underwoode, June* 15, 1667.

RETURNING from *Cornwall* the laſt week, I found at *Nunam* the two glaſſes mentioned in yours of *May* the 18th, but indeed not without ſome wonder (for they were ſent to *Wells* in *Somerſet*, a road far diſtant from ours, and accidentally lighted on by a ſervant of Mr. *Strode* of *Barrington-houſe*, in that county, to me a ſtranger, who yet, out of his reſpect to Sir *William Strode*'s name and family, took care, though through ſeveral hands, for its ſafe arrival) a favour, when I wrote laſt to your honour, that was then as far beyond my expectation, as it is now above my abilities enough to acknowledge. I had not the convenience of taking any of the ſtrong ſpirit till this morning in borage-water; ſome of the good effects whereof I am even already very ſenſible of, by ſmelling thereunto, confidently preſuming on its intended admirable effects. Sir, I dare aſſure myſelf it will not be over much diſpleaſing to you to read an account (by way of return together with my moſt humble thanks for thoſe many renewed favours your honour has been pleaſed to grace me with) of ſome few baroſcopical experiments, which I offer not as new, but farther confirming your hypotheſis touching the weight of the air. On *May* the 25th (67) I filled my tube with ☿ (having beſtowed ſeveral days ſpace to cleanſe it from other droſſy dirty bodies mixed with it) according to the uſual way; which immediately upon the inverſion thereof, ſubſided at 30 inches and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch, and ſo remained till the *Monday* following, when by ſeven in the morning I carried it up half ways a meanly elevated, but ſteep hill, where, upon faſtening it to a tree, the ☿ preſently ſubſided at $30\frac{3}{4}$: and coming to the top of the hill, it deſcended to $29\frac{7}{8}$: the weather was very fair, and hot, but a briſk eaſterly wind, about full ſea. Upon my coming down, I placed the B. on the ſame tree at the middle of the hill, and found it quickly riſen again to $30\frac{3}{4}$, which cleared my doubts of any miſtake: but placing it in a cellar, lower in the valley, than our houſe ſome few fathoms perpendicular, it aſcended to $30\frac{9}{4}$, which was the higheſt I ever yet obſerved the ☿ at. But repeating this experiment on the ſame hill, at the ſame places this morning, being cloſe, but fair, when I went out of our houſe, I found it to fall ſhort $\frac{3}{4}$ of what the ☿ proportionably fell the firſt experiment, *viz.* that $\frac{3}{8}$, this but $\frac{9}{4}$; which ſeems ſomewhat ſtrange unto me, unleſs the falling of a ſhower, and full ſea, when I was at the top, might cauſe it to aſcend; for indeed the ☿ was higher on my coming down at the middle of the hill by above $\frac{1}{4}$, than it was at the ſame place when I went up; and it riſe almoſt $\frac{2}{4}$ on my return above what it was in my chamber above an hour before. *May* the 7th I attempted to know, what alteration in reſpect of weight the ſound of bells did make in the air, placing my B. without the bell-chamber door in the midſt of a peal; but could perceive none (which I attributed to the too much air, and ſome water in the tube, it being then unſkilfully filled) but obſerved this, that the impriſoned or latitant air in the body of the ☿ did nimbly and frequently enlarge itſelf, by getting up in little bubbles into the empty part of the cylinder, which I humbly conceive was merely ſet at liberty by the effects of the ſound on the air; and that at ſeventy feet's height the ☿ fell about $\frac{1}{8}$. I have not as yet found the ☿ to be lower than 29. My late indiſpoſition of health, and ſome other private buſineſs has hindered my proſecuting ſome (more curious) intended experiments, and the gaining the remainder of my promiſed mineral account, which I hope very ſpeedily to effect. I had made ready ſome of the ſuppoſed talc with ſome other minerals: but being adviſed by Sir *William Strode* to reſpite them, who hopes you will begin your journey for thoſe parts before the box may arrive; and conceiving your own choice

choice on the place may be more pleaſing, I forbear to ſend them up, and further to trouble you at this time, than to read me,

Your honour's infinitely obliged,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

SIR *William Strode* and his ſons preſent their humble ſervice to you.

SIR, *Nunam* ♃, *Nov.* 13, A. 1667.

AS I came from *Plymouth* this morning, I very fortunately met with the conveniency of Mr. *Verman*'s ſpeedy intentions for *Oxford*, whereby I am only enabled at preſent briefly to acquaint you with my receipt of both your extraordinary favours, that of the ſpirits laſt *Friday*, and of the book but this very morning: and with the return of my moſt humble and heartieſt thanks to your honour for them, I took ſome of the ſpirit in pimpernell-water (the firſt that came to hand) laſt *Sunday* morning with very good ſucceſs: the ſenſe and vigour whereof by *Monday* morning expelling in a great meaſure, that of ſtupifying pain, which has all the laſt ſummer ſomewhat (though not ſo much ſince the uſe of your former ſpirituous medicine) afflicted my head, and but little leſs impaired all the exterior and interior ſenſes; but I truſt by God's bleſſing on this medicine will be recovered again. I have lately on requeſt from Mr. *Oldenburg* made a ſmall mineral collection for your Society, intending ſhortly to ſpeed it for *London*, and to incloſe a copy of its catalogue for you, with an account (to me and others ſomewhat odd) of the operative effect of the oleum ſuccini, or it may be of your former ſpirit, in my head, which my haſte at preſent will not permit, being to go into the eaſt for ſome few days very early to-morrow, if the weather hinders not. The ♃ in the barometer has within thoſe few weeks meaſured all the degrees between 30½, and 28. I humbly beg your honour to pardon this ſo ſlender a return as being ſudden, and leave (though abruptly) to ſubſcribe,

Your honour's moſt obliged,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

Noble SIR, *Leyden*, ♃, *Aug.* 30, A. 1668.

IF this attain the honour of kiſſing your noble hands at *London*, together with the worthy Dr. *Sampſon* (my honoured friend) I may hope for your excuſe of my more than uncivil ſilence, and this the ſooner, by the advantage of his mediation, whoſe parts and travels cannot be but well pleaſing, if you fall on that ſubject.

I KNOW not, whether it may be new to acquaint you, there is a blind man at *Copenhagen* can as well diſtinguiſh colours by his touch, as he at *Utrecht*. This I am aſſured of by an ingenious perſon of this academy, that came lately from thence, and has accurately repeated the experiment ſeveral times.

SIR, my preſent deſigns are to ſettle here for ſome time, making divinity my principal ſtudy. If you ſhall be pleaſed to honour me with your commands, it will not only be matter of great comfort, but an occaſion of expreſſion, how much I deſire to be continued in the quality of

Your honour's humbleſt and
moſt obedient ſervant,
SAM. COLEPRESSE.

ANY ſuperſcription for me a ſtudent at *Leyden* may come ſafe.

Great SIR, *Leyden*, $\frac{7}{17}$ *April* 1669.

IN the beginning of *January* laſt, on the return of a ſtudent here from *London*, I received by Mr. *Oldenburg*'s means, the honour of your incomparable piece, the Continuation of New Experiments, *&c.* as from your honour: whereby my ambition immediately challenged the ſubſcription of *Ex dono nobiliſſimi autboris*. But this return was ſo early ſucceeded by a new arrival of the learned and judicious Mr. *Bernard*, and Dr. *Wallis*'s hopeful ſon, full fraught with your noble and affectionate remembrances of me; but withal adding, even at their entrance, that they ſhould as ſpeedily conſult a return; that it is all the apology I can frame to excuſe myſelf from more than uncivil neglect, in not making my humble acknowledgments (which is all your honour at laſt muſt accept of for your weighty favours) much ſooner; unleſs your kindneſs ſhall well interpret the fear I had to preſent you with but too coſtly thanks. And now before I mention this laſt (whoſe title page I may, by leave, juſtly alter thus: A continuation of renewed experiments of ſignal favours towards *S. C.* by the honourable *Robert Boyle*) and that unparallelled piece, the Origin of Forms and Qualities (and indeed the origin of your favours to me of that quality) I muſt add theſe two divine pieces, your never enough to be acknowledged Style of Holy Scripture, and Seraphic Love, and return you innumerable moſt humble and cordial thanks; for the two former in a more eſpecial manner, the latter on a general account; a haſty ſight of which I got ſo long as to peruſe ſo much (by an *Oxonian*'s favour, that went ſuddenly for *England*) that I find myſelf, and thoſe (it may be) that have ſpent more years in that ſacred ſtudy, than I as yet weeks, to be highly enaged to expreſs our ſenſe of that almoſt unimaginable favour you ſhewed our robe, in vindicating that, on which our whole ſtructure ſtands, and taking off a calumny, but too often made uſe of by the nobler ſort, *viz.* that what the *Theologi* write on that ſubject is but partial, and, that they do it more for the maintenance of their profeſſion, than out of pure ingenuity, and their own natural perſuaſions, *&c.* Sir, if I am incapable to preſent you with an account of what new notions and experiments are, or may be, ſprung and practiſed here, in medicine or chemiſtry, you will, I doubt not, forgive me, ſince I have betaken myſelf to pry a little into that ſtudy of ſtudies, wherein I begin to find in a few weeks, and as few ſheets, very many inextricable difficulties, and ſubtileſt nodes (perchance firſt ſought for by the ſchoolmen) yet perceive a far greater difficulty (nay as yet altogether impoſſible) to reconcile what in moſt books is laid down ſo poſitive, and ſeeming plain, to my undirected intellect, where it may be lies the defect. Heartily glad ſhould I be, could I receive ſatisfaction from a perſon, that would but deal ingenuouſly with me, (the moſt part as yet telling me, this, and this, we muſt believe and ſay, but why, and how, nay what we know not) even in things, that have the general repute of being moſt orthodox.

YESTERDAY I received an anſwer to ſome mineral queries, I formerly ſent to *Copenhagen*, by his means, that addreſſed it to me, whoſe name it bears. His correſpondent there aſſures him, he had it from the able and experienced Dr. *James George Secmann*, which I humbly offer you, (on the ſcore you were pleaſed ſometime ſince to recommend the mineral queries) together with a few of our diſputations; which, if with the ſeries of mineral ones, not yet compleated by the profeſſor, four or five wanting, ſhall be but graced with your acceptance, though I intend them not to repreſent any new thing to you, but as a teſtimony, that I have a ſenſe of thoſe many ſtrong obligations you have been pleaſed to lay on me, and very earneſt and affectionate deſires

ſires of performing ſome piece of real ſervice to you, if ever occaſion may preſent, it cannot but infinitely engage,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble, and
moſt obedient ſervant,

SAM. COLEPRESSE.

MR. *Strode* paſt ſafe hence to *Flanders*, by the way of *Amſterdam* and *Utrecht*. I ſhould have preſented you now with *De Raie*'s Oration *De Sapientiâ Veterum:* but underſtanding Mr. *Oldenburg* has it, and Mr. *Bernard*, I forbear, till it be compleated by a ſecond, which is to come, on which that extant depends. I have not foreſtalled Mr. *Bernard*, whoſe quality entitles him to more curious narrations, than I can attain the knowledge of.

SIR *William Strode*'s news of your viſiting thoſe parts will be exceeding well-pleaſing.

Letters from Dr. HYDE *to* Mr. BOYLE.

Worthy SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, Feb.* 14, 1666-7.

PREMISING my ſervice and thanks for all your favours, I make bold to preſent here unto you a paper tranſlated out of ſome *Arabic* and *Perſian* authors, giving an account of ſome of thoſe things enquired after in your monthly Tranſactions. The firſt is of ſal ammoniacum, called by the *Perſians* Nuſhâdur: and this name may be lawfully written ſeveral ways, as alſo Nuſhâdir, or Alnuſhâdur, or Alnuſhâdir, or Annuſhâdur, or Annuſhâdir; and no otherwiſe, although in ſome chemical books it is ſo ſtrangely deformed, that one could ſcarce get it to be the ſame word. The ſecond thing is of petrifaction, and the third of amber, which is the very name which the *Perſians* and *Arabians* commonly call it by. I have likewiſe incloſed a letter to Mr. *Denton*, at *Conſtantinople*; which if you can ſend, you will do me a great favour; which I humbly intreat of you, becauſe I myſelf am wholly unacquainted with the method of ſending to thoſe foreign places, and ſo cannot give myſelf any aſſurance, that my letter ſhall arrive at the deſired place, unleſs it be by your aſſiſtance. I alſo intreat you to be pleaſed to let me know, where I may find the quotation you once mentioned to me concerning *Hermes*'s triple book, occaſioned by me telling you of ſuch another book fathered upon *Zoroaſtes*, or, more rightly, *Zerdúſht*. Dr. *Pocock* is recovered of that dangerous lameneſs and ſore by his heel, which kept him within doors ſo long. The lord of *Oſſory*, lord *Douglas*, and Sir *Nicholas Armorer*, were created doctors of law, as they paſſed through *Oxford*, and ſeveral noblemen of the univerſity were together at the ſame time created maſters of arts. Thus craving pardon for giving you ſo great trouble, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

SIR,

your very much obliged
friend and ſervant,

THO. HYDE.

I HAVE among other things deſired Mr. *Denton* to enquire, if there be any chemiſts about *Conſtantinople*, and to get as many of their books as he can, if there be any; and alſo to enquire for any, who have written of minerals, or any other ſuch curious ſubject.

Worthy

Worthy SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, March* 4, 1666-7.

WITH my thanks for the trouble I have given you already, I make bold, according to your advice, to ſend here another letter to the ſame effect as the former, intreating you to be pleaſed to convey it for me. If for the future I meet with any thing in oriental authors, that may illuſtrate natural knowledge, I ſhall be ſure to take notice of it; and I hope hereafter I may be capable of doing you more conſiderable ſervice, when my buſineſs of making the Catalogue is finiſhed; I now having very little leiſure to make a ſearch, except I can recollect any things, which I have read heretofore. I hope likewiſe we may obtain more conſiderable books of ſuch kind of learning, if we can procure ſome perſon or other to defray the charge of buying them; for their books being all written with the hand, are twice as dear as printed books are here in *England*, except one, who lives upon the place, will be very diligent in watching good opportunities of getting them cheaper. If you can poſſibly recollect the citation of the triple book of *Hermes*, I ſhould be exceeding glad to know it, when you come to *Oxford*. In the mean time, I remain,

SIR,

your much obliged
friend and ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

IN the papers I ſent laſt, there is a note concerning oud, that it ſignifies properly lignum aloes; and that is, indeed, the uſual acception of it in moſt authors. But I find ſince, in *Emircond*, a *Perſian* hiſtorian, ſome mention of oud, and he ſaith, that the *Indian* oud is like to wax, and melteth, if it be put to the fire. And if ſo, then amber may properly enough be called by the ſame name, as it is in the *Perſian* author, whence the papers I ſent were excerpted.

Worthy SIR, *Oxon, Saturday, May* 20, 1671.

FOR the ſatisfaction of you and my other friends, with whom you ſhall happen to converſe, this is to aſſure you, that this very hour (it being ſix of the clock in the evening) I have finiſhed my long and tedious work of the Catalogue, ſo that it ſhall not lie at my door any longer. The next thing is to get in as many new books as we can, and ſo put it to the preſs as ſoon as the act ſhall be paſt; for I ſuppoſe it can hardly go to the preſs before that time. No more at preſent, but only to ſubſcribe myſelf,

SIR,

your very much obliged,
and moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

Worthy SIR, *Oxon, Oct.* 23, 1671.

I HAVE here ſent you ſome rude papers upon the beginning of *Geneſis*; they are yet but imperfect, becauſe I ſuppoſe, that upon ſecond thoughts I ſhall both add and alter abundantly, as I ſhall hereafter ſee occaſion. In this manner I ſhall go over the whole *Pentateuch*, if you think it worth the while. And I intreat you to be pleaſed to tell me freely, what you miſlike, either in my matter or method; for I have not gone ſo far, but that I can eaſily change them both, if it ſhall be thought fit. My method is to give a true account firſt of the *Hebrew* words, and, ſecondly,

to

to examine how far the oriental verſions do agree with, or diſagree from, the original. For *Latin* interpreters have not always done their part, ſometimes for want of ſkill, and ſometimes being fearful to recede too far from the *Hebrew*; ſo that the oriental verſions are many times not ſo well interpreted as they ought to be; and therefore it ſhould ſeem neceſſary to examine them particularly and critically, which I ſhall do according to my ſkill, if it may be acceptable; and in what I ſhall in this kind perform, I ſhall always uſe my own judgment and my own genius, before I look upon any author's, becauſe I will not be led by them. But after I have firſt tried my own ſkill, then I may conſult other critics, to ſee how far they and I do agree or diſagree: for I do not account it any thing worth for me to collect what others have done already; if I cannot produce ſomething that is new, I ſhall forbear to ſay any thing: and therefore I ſhall conſult chiefly ſuch authors, as have not been peruſed by *Europeans*; and if, out of thoſe my eaſtern authors, I can, towards the explication of the ſcripture, produce ſuch things, as have not been yet found, or rightly applied, by other men; then I ſhall think my time and labour well beſtowed, and that my eaſtern ſtudies have attained their right end, *viz.* the glory of God, and the edification of others in the truth and right underſtanding of his word. But neither to this, or any other of my own ſtudies, can I apply myſelf, until I have got ſome acceſſion to my livelihood, that ſo I may be delivered from the ſlavery of labouring for my bread. Wherefore you would eternally oblige me, if by any of your friends you could procure for me ſome good prebend or ſine-cure, or maſterſhip of an hoſpital, or any ſuch kind of thing, which would not too much call me off from my ſtudies. As ſoon as I can receive information in one or two particulars from beyond ſea, which I every day expect, I ſhall ſend you ſome of my obſervations, in which I have taken more elaborate pains, *viz.* an account of the bird dukiphath in *Leviticus* and *Deuteronomy*; an account of the hyſſop mentioned in ſcripture, wherein ſome other obſervations about herbs are accidentally mentioned; and, thirdly, you ſhall have a true and full account of the doves-dung eaten in the ſiege of *Samaria*.

I INTREAT you to be pleaſed to uſe your endeavours to ſecure the *Eaſt-India* chaplain's place for Mr. *Fraunce*, for I do verily believe he will be an induſtrious perſon in his duty, and he is alſo willing to tarry beyond that time, which is prefixed; and, ever ſince I mentioned it to him, he doth depend upon it. We have here lately, upon the death of Mr. *Wilkins*, choſen one Mr. *Waſe* to be our architypographus and beadle: he is a very good ſcholar, tolerably well verſed in ſeveral both eaſtern and weſtern languages, and is an excellent critic in *Latin* and *Greek*, and is a very ſtudious and induſtrious man; and yet our heads of houſes are much offended, only becauſe he was not the man whom they aimed at. There was alſo the king's letter, which named no man in particular, but did in general adviſe us to chooſe a fit perſon.

THESE firſt papers, which I here ſend, perhaps may not be ſo pleaſing to you, becauſe they have ſo many things in them, which are merely grammatical; but when I come a little farther to deal with paradiſe and its rivers, that will afford other kind of matter. In the mean time I remain,

SIR, your much obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

Worthy SIR, *Thurſday, Feb.* 1, 1671.

I RECEIVED your laſt, and my friend Mr. *Fraunce* is ready, at the very firſt ſummons, to come up to *London*. He is a good ſcholar, a perſonable man, and of ſober converſation, and uſually pleaſeth very well in his faculty of preaching. He would

would come up to *London* preſently, but he is not well able to bear the charge of lying there, it being a chargeable place: and therefore I would intreat you to be pleaſed to order the buſineſs ſo, that he may be called, when the time is very near, if it be not ſo already. I ſuppoſe it is a conſtant cuſtom to let the chaplains have a part of their ſtipend beforehand, by way of advance, that ſo they may fit themſelves with clothes and books, and other neceſſaries for ſo long a voyage. And therefore my friend hopeth and dependeth upon that favour, that he may have thirty or forty pounds advance money, which ſhall be accounted towards the payment of his ſtipend, which the company uſually allow to their chaplains. I have here incloſed a few lines of chemiſtry, which I endeavoured to tranſlate out of an *Arabic* author, who hath ſome few more things of the ſame nature. But I find, that it is a hard matter to tranſlate any thing in phyſic or chemiſtry, except a man takes a pretty ſufficient time to inſtruct himſelf in the terms of art, and other præcognita, which are neceſſary for a good tranſlator of ſuch things: and he who, ſetteth raſhly upon it without ſuch preparation, can hardly expect to come off ſo well as he ought, although otherwiſe perhaps he may be tolerably verſed in the language he dealeth with. If I hear nothing more from you by the next poſt, then my friend ſhall come to *London* next week: but if without danger of miſcarriage, more ſpace may be allowed, then I intreat you to be pleaſed to ſignify the ſame to,

SIR,

your much obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

Incloſed in the preceding.

The compoſition of the grand and univerſal elixir, according to Geber.

SCITO coryphæum Gjaberum certiores nos feciſſe in relationibus ſuis ex Socrât, quòd elixir perfectum eſt illud, quod ducitur ſeu regulatur ex omnibus corporibus.

COMMENTARIUS.

Dico quòd in faciendo hoc elixire perfecto ſunt modi five ingreſſus, ſeparationes, & trutinationes, deducta à re ſubſtratâ dividenda. Et hoc eſt, ut corpora impura fiant pura munda, adducta ſeu vergentia ad rubedinem. Debet [*debent*] *eſſe de Saturno* 3. *de Jove* 4. *de Marte* 5. *de Sole* 6. *de Venere* 7. *de Mercurio* 8. *de Lunâ* 9. *Liquefiant Mars and Venus primò: poſt completam purificationem* [*depurationem*] *& mollificationem,* [*lenificationem*] *tum adjiciatur illis Jupiter, deinde Saturnus: tum paſcatur tota maſſa malgamatione, quæ fit ex duobus luminaribus & Mercurio, paulatim; donec ſe tota abſumpſerint in maſſam per* 3 *horas. Tum evacuetur tota maſſa in locum unum de novo in oleum dulce & defæcatum* [*clarum.*] *Tum fumatur tota maſſa, prout eſt corpus unum ſtans ſeu conſiſtens in medio corporis novi, in quo eſt compoſitio ſecundum modum medium, & adjiciatur ei de coronâ victoriæ quantitas tertiæ partis ponderis ejus. Tum imbibat imbibitiones decem, donec perficiatur elixir perfectum proficuum ad magnam utilitatem.*

Gjaber docuit operationes elixiris ex animalibus, ex herbis, ex lapidibus, & miſcuit aliquot operationes alias cum aliis: & commemoravit elixir compoſitum quod imbiberit de aquâ (ſucco) herbarum & tinturâ animalium, &c.

COM-

COMMENTARIUS.

Ad ejus explicationem dico, quod elixir perfectum, quando pervenerit ad completionem ſuam juxta modum medium, & imbiberit de tinctur animalium ſubtiliori, quæ ſit ſicut ſimplex, tum amplectetur eam ad perfectionem ſuam, & convertet eam in ſeipſum, infiget in eam tincturam ſuam, & fixabit in eâ utilitatem ſuam. Et ſic eſt opinio noſtra de tinctur* ſpecierum aliquot herbarum ſalutiferarum veneno expertium, quòd viz. earum elixir perveniet ad effectus magnos ac utiles in omni eo, quod poteſt eſſe propter medicinas morborum ac infirmitatum: eo quod hoc elixir colligit quicquid eſt utile ex herbes & animalibus, & ſolvit & condenſat: eſt enim antidotum magnum & elixir univerſale: & ceratium (i. e. pondus ceratum) ex eo prodeſt ad utilitatem magnam, per Dei permiſſionem.*

Si autem pars elixiris imbiberit de ſucco herbarum venenatarum, aut fellibus animalium venenatorum, uti ſunt viperæ, pardi, & animalia rapacia; tale elixir erit venenum lethiferum interficiens mero tactu celeriter: & granum ex eo (i. e. pondus grani tritici) interficiet elephantem, qui exinde fiet venenoſus: (viz. caro ejus fiet venenoſa.) Deus autem nos liberet ab hoc. Et quidem hujus mentionem non feciſſemus, niſi ut ſolveretur id quod poſuit (i. e. aſſeruit) Gjaber, ut explicaret nobis quid in elixire eſſet utilitatis aut noxæ; ita ut ſi fortè obtinuerit aliquis elixir quoddam ex theſauro aliquo, aut illud ſibi comparaverit à medico, non procederit ad medicinam exercendam per illud, donec ſciat originem ejus & ſummum ejus, & ex quibus rebus ſit compoſitum.

As for that on the other ſide this paper *, I think I have tranſlated right enough; but on this ſide † there is more difficulty, ſo that I being not an adeptus, or ſon of art, cannot be altogether ſo certain, whether I have expreſſed all things ſo punctually right as they ſhould be. But I have endeavoured, as near as I can, to expreſs the ſenſe of the *Arabic* words of my author; and I hope that I have not very much miſſed his ſcope. I ſuppoſe *Secrât* may be the name of ſome of *Geber*'s books; otherwiſe I know not what it is.

* Viz. from *Scito coryphæum* to *tinctur* animalium.*

† Viz. from *Ad ejus* to *compoſitum.*

WHAT is here in this paper included in parentheſis, is my own addition, and not the words of my author.

SIR, *Oxon, Sept.* 3, 1676.

DOCTOR *Marſhall* preſents his humble ſervice and thanks for your readineſs to favour him: but I doubt Mr. *Watſon* hath left *London* by his father's importunity, ſo that all buſineſs with him is at an end at preſent.

As for the *Malayan* goſpels, they were printed in *Dutch* and *Malayan* at *Amſterdam* 1651, in quarto. I ſuppoſe they are done after the *Dutch* verſion, which is according to *Beza*. The two former evangeliſts, *Matthew* and *Mark*, were turned into *Malayan* by one *Albert Ruyl*, the two others by one *Jan van Haſel*; and in our edition the Acts of the Apoſtles were added by one *Juſtus Heurnius*, who profeſſeth to have corrected the verſion of the Evangeliſts, and compared it with the original text. So that I ſuppoſe the verſion is exact enough, they being miniſters and chaplains there, who did it by the command of *Heer Generael Pieter de Carpentier*. I am ſorry I could not meet with the lord *Berkeley* to pay my reſpects and thanks to his lordſhip: wherefore you will favour me, if you pleaſe to preſent my humble ſervice and thanks to his lordſhip, and let him know, that I was four or five times to have waited upon him. I doubt the nights are grown too cold for the eaſtern ſeeds, neither is there ſummer enough to bring them to perfection; ſo that perhaps it will be beſt to keep them till next *May*.

I MOST humbly thank you for your readineſs to help my friend Mr. *Broom*, when you ſhall find it may be conveniently done. In the mean time I remain,

SIR,

your deeply obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, Eaſter-Tueſday*, 1667.

I HAVE by Mr. *Moor*'s waggon ſent for you a little packet, which contains ſeven ſheets of the *Malayan* goſpels: what we have already done takes in the beginning of the goſpel of St. *John*. I intreat you to be pleaſed to let your man call for it at Mr. *Moor*'s warehouſe at the *Saracen's-head* without *Newgate* any time on *Thurſday*, for it will come to *London* on *Wedneſday* night. As for the *Arabic* book of curious receipts, whereof you deſired the heads, I have looked upon it, and do find, that the heads are too general to do you any ſervice: as for example; chapter concerning puppet-plays; chapter concerning tricks with rings; chapter concerning tricks with cups and glaſſes; chapter concerning tricks with fireworks, and ſo the reſt. Now under each of theſe heads or chapters he brings divers inſtances to his purpoſe, which muſt be given in particular, whenever they are to be ſerviceable. In the mean time, for your preſent ſatisfaction, I ſhall give you this brief account, *viz.* That upon peruſal of the book, I am not of the ſame opinion with Mr. *Watſon*, who thought all things were put under diſguiſed names; for to me they ſeem to be written plainly as the author intended them to be underſtood by the reader. But that, which put Mr. *Watſon* into that opinion, might be the ridiculouſneſs and impoſſibility of ſome of them; which I rather attribute to mere ſuperſtition and enchantment, of which many of them do much ſavour. As for example, To walk on the water, take a piece of the ſkin of a crocodile, and of a ſea-horſe, and of divers other water-animals, and when the ſun is in ſuch a ſign, and the planets in ſuch a conjunction, make yourſelf ſhoes of the ſaid ſkins, and with theſe ſhoes you ſhall walk upon the water, without ſinking. And there are many more as ridiculous as this, which I have mentioned. But of thoſe, which ſeem to be more ſerious and practicable, be pleaſed to take this following ſpecimen. To ſow ſeeds, which will grow up preſently, take *Indian* barley, and ſeeds of cucumber, and ſteep them in the blood, which comes out of a cupping-glaſs: there let them ſteep ſeven days, ſtanding in the ſun. Afterwards take them out of the blood, and lay them upon a clean paper in the ſun ſeven days more. Afterwards wrap them up in a piece of cotton cloth, and keep them for your uſe. Get alſo ſome of the fine earth, which ſticks to the plough ſhare in the time of ploughing, or ſeed-time, and keep it for your uſe in a new cotton bag. And when you come into any company, where you have a mind to ſhow this trick, take ſome of this earth (not letting the company know but that it is common earth) and make it into little furrows, and ſow your corn in it, and ſprinkle it well with warm water, and cover it with a cloth borne up hollow by little ſticks ſet upright about it; and after two hours it will grow up. When you have a mind to put an egg into a narrow mouthed bottle, or to draw it through a ring, take a new-laid egg and put it into wine vinegar, in which hath been diſſolved ſome ſal armoniac: leave it to ſoak in this liquor, which will ſoften the egg-ſhell, ſo that you may put it into a bottle. And when it is in the bottle, put ordinary water into it, and it will harden again, and look like a firm egg. When you have a mind to break an egg, and find writing on the inſide of the ſhell, write firſt upon the outſide with water, in which hath

hath been diſſolved chalcanthum, and write the ſame ſtrokes over again the ſecond and third time: and after it is dried, throw it down and break it, and you ſhall find red writing on the inſide of the ſhell. When you would have an egg like the ſun-beams, take a freſh pigeon's egg, and by a little hole ſuck out all that is in it, and leave it to dry; and fill it up with dew, and ſtop the little hole, and put it into an hot place, and it will fly in the preſence of the company to their great wonder. To make an egg ſtand faſt upon any convex ſuperficies, though it is ſhaken, ſuck out what is in the egg, and fill it again with quickſilver, and ſtop it with wax, and it will ſtand upon any round place. If you deſire to put fire into your mouth without any hurt, take ſal armoniac, and an herb called pyrethrum, and chew them well, but do not ſwallow any of your ſpittle: and then putting an hot iron upon your tongue, it ſhall hiſs, but not hurt you. If you deſire to carry fire, and it ſhall not hurt you, take yellow arſenic and alum, and grind them well together: then take ſome juice of ſenagreen, and ſome of the gall of a bull, and with this anoint your hand, and no fire ſhall hurt it, neither ſhall you feel the heat.

WHEN you deſire to ſet fire on any one's clothes without hurt, take froth of the ſea, of egg-ſhell, and of quick-lime, of each a like part, and grind them well together, and wet them with old wine vinegar: then beſprinkle his clothes well with this liquor, and alſo ſcatter ſome of the dry compoſition upon his clothes, and putting to fire, it ſhall burn without hurting: and when you would quench it, caſt on cold water. Take red arſenic and alum, and work them well together with the white of an egg; and rubbing ſome of it upon your hand, if you carry fire, it ſhall not hurt you.

WHETHER theſe are of any uſe, you can judge: to me they ſeem of but little worth. But there are here and there ſome few thereof, which ſeem practicable, the books being pretty large in quarto, as thick as one's thumb. The author is *Abu'l Kaſim Irakienſis*, commonly called *Sheich Ahmed Irakienſis*. There are in the book many odd words proper to the author's own country and dialect, which are not to be found in any dictionary. But towards the end of this ſummer, I look for two men, who are natives of thoſe parts, who perhaps may unriddle the hard words for me. It were to be wiſhed, that we had in *Oxford* a college for the maintenance of ſome able men out of the ſeveral eaſtern countries; it would be a great help to all eaſtern learning: and when the church of *England* ſhall be ſo zealous as to have a college *de propaganda fide*, ſuch eaſtern men being amongſt us, would enable us to be ſo accuſtomed to the true and genuine pronunciation of thoſe languages, that ſo our emiſſaries might be enabled to diſcourſe readily with the natives; for book-learning alone will not do it. And therefore I, for my own both benefit and pleaſure, do catch at all opportunities of diſcourſing with the natives of thoſe countries in their own languages. But having been too tedious, I only ſubſcribe,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, July* 31, 1677.

YOU may juſtly wonder, that you have heard nothing from me thus long; the reaſon was, becauſe I hoped at one trouble to ſend you the whole, without interrupting you with ſuch frequent letters. But the extreme tediouſneſs of the printer (he having gotten another piece of work into his hands) makes it thus long before I can ſend you the laſt chapter of the *Acts*, which I had hoped to have ſent above

a month ago. But now at last I have sent the whole remainder of the text, which, thanks be to God, is finished.

WHEN Mr. *Hall*, the printer, did at first compute the number of sheets, he over counted it very much; for I now find, that the number of sheets will not be so many, nor the charge so great, as he then estimated it; so that it will not cost you so much money as at first I thought. But of what the charge is, you shall have a faithful account, and the remainer of the money returned back to you by Mr. *Davis:* for I did let the money remain in his hands, to pay the printer, as occasion required. We are now printing the title-page and a preface, which I and Dr. *Marshall* have contrived, to give an account of the work, and the reason of undertaking it, and what hath been done in that kind, *&c.* And more we should have done, if we could have gotten any helps for the *Malayan* language in their own characters. Dr. *Marshall* hath shewed himself very ready and willing to serve you in this business; for I have given him a great deal of trouble, by going to him with every proof-sheet, to consult his copies and dictionaries, about doubts, which did perpetually occur. So that I suppose you will be pleased to bestow upon him a copy of the book, which we print; and I beg one copy of you for myself; and there are two gentlemen at *London*, who lent us one *Malayan* testament, and gave us another, which assisted us much in the work; so that I must beg a copy for each of them; and then according to the act of parliament, there must be three copies reserved, *viz.* one for *Oxford*, another for *Cambridge*, and a third for the king's library: so that the whole number will be seven copies, unless you will please to take care yourself to present one to the king's library, you being near it. But, concerning this, I shall wait for your farther order. When I send the title-page and preface (which I hope will be this next week) then you shall have an exact account of the charges. In the mean time I remain,

SIR,

your ever obliged, and
most humble servant,
THO. HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, Aug.* 14, 1677.

I HERE send you the completion of the whole work, which (thanks be to God) is happily finished. In the preface we have discoursed concerning the remissness of our people, in endeavouring the conversion of those poor heathens, of whose temporal goods we participate, and of the worthiness of promoting so good a work; and therefore we thought fit to print some supernumeraries of the preface, that so, after the copies are gone from you, you may have some of those prefaces by you, ready to communicate to any persons, whom you think fit for the promotion of so good a design: and we also keep some by us at *Oxford*, for the same purpose. I have caused twenty-five prefaces to be stitched up in blue paper, ready to your hand, and I have sent them in a packet by Mr. *Moor*'s coach, at the *Saracen's-head* near *Newgate*, where your man may find them. This, which I here inclose, is to be joined with the sheets, which I formerly sent you, to make them up a perfect copy.

IT now remains, that you will be pleased to send me your order, what to do with the five hundred printed copies of the book. I suppose you would have them sent up to you in quires, that so you may bind them up as you see fit. And therefore (God willing) I shall send them up to you the next week. Perhaps there may be some more than five hundred; but whatever it is, you shall have an account by my next letter.

THE

THE printing did coſt fifteen ſhillings *per* ſheet, *viz.* fourteen ſhillings to the printer himſelf, and one ſhilling to a corrector, to read it once over by the copy, to cleanſe it from the groſſer faults, that ſo, when I myſelf came to read it by the copy, I might find it pretty well cleanſed.

Now the whole number of the ſheets being twenty-nine, twenty-nine times fifteen ſhillings makes twenty-one pounds fifteen ſhillings. So that of the thirty-one pounds ten ſhillings, which you paid to Mr. *Davis*, there remains nine pounds fourteen ſhillings, which he muſt repay to you; only he muſt deduct about half a crown, which we paid for the ſtitching up of the prefaces, and for the carriage back of the remainder of the paper to his houſe. For we having bought too much paper, I deſired him to take back the remainder to himſelf, which was twenty-five reams, at ſix ſhillings *per* ream, which makes ſeven pounds ten ſhillings. So that he is to be accountable to you for nine pounds fourteen ſhillings, and ſeven pounds ten ſhillings, that is, ſeventeen pounds four ſhillings, which will return clear unto you, out of the fifty pounds, excepting only the odd ſhillings abovementioned. He hath promiſed me this day to write to you, and give you the account under his own hand. I have alſo here incloſed the printer's account under his own hand, as he exhibited it to Dr. *Marſhall* and me.

I HAD forgot to tell you, that it is uſual for a book to be preſented to the vice-chancellor, becauſe he licenſeth it. And ſince I have talked with the printer, I find, that it is a cuſtom, as well here, as at *London*, for every one in his houſe to have a copy in ſheets, or money for it; wherefore I think it is beſt for you to redeem thoſe ſix copies, which he expects, and give him ſomething in money for them; for you will make a better uſe of them. This is all at preſent from,

SIR,

your moſt obliged friend and ſervant,

THO. HYDE.

IF you hear of any ſhip going to *Bombay*, I would intreat the favour to have notice of it.

SIR, *Oxon, Sept.* 22, 1677.

I RECEIVED your laſt of the 19th of this inſtant, wherein I find, that you do not miſlike my way of directing an epiſtle to you, which we here do alſo judge to be a very fit way. But you ſeem, in the end of your letter, to intimate, that what Dr. *Marſhall* hath ſpoken concerning *New England*, ſhould be taken out: if ſo, it will cauſe the reprinting of one whole ſheet; and therefore I would know your full reſolution about it. It ſeemeth to me, that what he hath ſaid may well enough ſtand; eſpecially becauſe it is no more than what is ſaid in the preface of the bible, or ſome of the books printed in *New England*, and the reflection made upon the opinion or obſervation of *Increaſe Mather* (there quoted) makes for the vindication of our *New Englanders*. But after all this, we are ſtill ready to do as you ſhall direct; and Dr. *Marſhall*, who preſents his humble ſervice to you, is ready either to add or alter, or take it quite out, or what you ſhall pleaſe to appoint in your next letter. In my addreſs at the beginning of the epiſtle, I choſe to mention your relation to the *Eaſt-India* company, becauſe the thing, which we do at preſent, is for the uſe of the *Eaſt-Indies*. To reckon up all titles, which might be given you, I thought too long for our preſent occaſions, in caſe I knew them all; but I being ignorant in that point, I doubt not but to be readily excuſed from you, who do not affect any titles. But however

however I would intreat you to be pleaſed to condeſcend ſo far in that point, as to hint unto me any thing, which may be proper for me to expreſs in my addreſs, that of being one of the committee being but a ſlender encomium; but only that I thought it appoſite to the preſent occaſion. Yet nothing hinders, but that ſomething elſe may be joined with it, if you think fit, and will pleaſe to give me an hint of what is proper. I have made ſome little addition to the epiſtle, of which I here ſend a copy; and as ſoon as I receive your approbation, or alterations (if you make any) I ſhall with all ſpeed get it printed. In the mean while I cauſed one hundred books to be bound plain, whereof ten a little finer. Theſe ſhall be put into a box, and ſent by Mr. *Moor*'s waggon, where you may have them on *Thurſday* morning, as alſo the one hundred and fifty unbound copies, packed up in paper only, becauſe perhaps you will open them at *London*; but if they are ſent farther, there muſt be ſome coarſe cloth wrapped over them.

YOUR experiment of light will be very welcome. But in the mean time I would intreat you to inform me, whether Mr. *Davis* ſent unto you ſeven copies, unbound, of the *Malayan*; becauſe, when I enquired them of him, he told me, that he had ſent them unto you. And I would fain have our accounts ſtand exact, that none of your copies may be embezzled. In the incloſed paper, that which hath the line drawn by it in the margin, is added over and above what was in the former. I would willingly keep in the word Director in the addreſs, if you think fit; and then the alluſion to it in the epiſtle will be more perſpicuous. And Committee alone ſeems not to be a word of ſo good a ſound. But however I ſhall do what you think fit, as ſoon as I receive your next, wherein you will give full inſtructions in this and all other things, to,

SIR,

your ever obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
THO. HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, Oct.* 16, 1677.

I HAVE now at laſt gotten the things printed, and have ſent them to you in a packet by Mr. *Moor*'s waggon, where your ſervant may find it on *Thurſday* morning, at the *Saracen's-head* near *Newgate*.

I HAVE ſent, in parcels, one hundred and fifty of the half ſheet reprinted for the one hundred and fifty books, which I ſent up to you unbound; and the like number of the epiſtle to be prefixed to the ſame books. In another parcel I have incloſed one hundred of the epiſtle, and one hundred of page 9 and 10, which may be paſted and inſerted into the books already bound, in caſe they are not yet ſent away. And there is one of each for the ſingle book, which you had at firſt. In a third parcel there are twenty-five of the epiſtle, and the like number of the half ſheet, to be inſerted into the ſupernumeraries; and ſo the former half ſheet, where is the mention of *New England*, may be caſt away; and ſo alſo in the reſt of the unbound books. I am ſorry to hear, that the buſineſs of the merchants is at a ſtand; but I hope they may write to the reſt of their company, and get their conſent by letter. We hear, that Dr. *Buſby* will give two thouſand pounds towards the erecting of a congregation *de propagandâ fide*; and we are beginning to conſult of ſetting aſide a hall in *Oxford*, to bear the name of *collegium de propagandâ fide*, and ſome propoſals will be drawn up and offered to conſideration: of this you will hear more from the biſhop of *Oxford*, who will be in *London* about the end of this month, or the beginning of the next. I think

I think it might be convenient, if you would pleaſe to preſent to the biſhop of *Canterbury* and of *London*, either each of them an entire book, or at leaſt the epiſtle and preface. And ſo alſo to the ſecretaries of ſtate, if you think fit. And I believe the deſign will take; of which I am very glad; for I have been often contriving how to find out patrons for ſuch a deſign. I ſuppoſe, that at the factories in *Eaſt-India* there are vocabularies for teaching the *Malayan* tongue to merchants and interpreters: if any ſuch could be procured, it would do us good ſervice. I have been told, there is a merchant at *Kenſington*, who hath ſome ſtrange books, with which he uſeth to baffle all people, who come near him. It were to be wiſhed we could know what thoſe books are. In the mean time I remain,

SIR, your ever obliged friend and ſervant,

T. HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, Thurſday, Nov.* 29, 1677.

THIS day the biſhop of *Oxford* is to preach in *London*, at the anniverſary meeting of the miniſters ſons; and being in *London*, there is no doubt but he will come and viſit you. My preſent occaſion of writing is to acquaint you, that I have lately diſcourſed with him about Dr. *Buſby*, and he doth ſeem to doubt, whether his promiſe will be made good or not. But, however, I could wiſh, that you would be pleaſed to take the pains to viſit Dr. *Buſby*, and let him know, that you have heard ſomething concerning his intention of contributing a ſum of money towards the raiſing a fund for the propagation of the goſpel; and ſo you will quickly find, whether he will be likely to hold to his word, or not. I ſuppoſe my lord of *Oxford* will ſolicit Mr. *Daniel Skeldon*, and ſome others of the merchants, who (upon his diſcourſing with them, not long ſince) did ſhew great willingneſs to have ſomething ſet apart yearly for the propagation of the Goſpel.

MY friend, Mr. *Fraunce*, whom you formerly procured to go chaplain to *Bombay*, is dead half a year ſince. He told me, in one of his letters, that he had gotten for me the *Zundavaſtaw*, and ſome other books, in the eaſtern languages: but now I fear they will be loſt, unleſs any friend could direct me how to recover them. I ſuppoſe it muſt be by writing to the governor of that factory, to whom I am not known.

SIR, at your leiſure I would intreat you to be pleaſed to inform me what diſagreement there is between vinegar and nitre, becauſe of *Proverbs* xxv. 20. "As he, who "taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, ſo is he, who "ſingeth ſongs to an heavy heart." It ſhould ſeem, that their nitre was natural, and therefore perhaps different from ours, which is artificial.

IT was probably the ſame nitre mentioned by the prophet, "Though thou waſh "thyſelf with borax, and uſeſt much nitre, yet ſhall not thine iniquities be cleanſed, "ſaith the Lord." For though the ordinary tranſlation, inſtead of borax, reads ſoap, yet I think that borith ought to be tranſlated borax; which is alſo a ſort of ſalt, much of the ſame nature with nitre, and therefore not unfitly joined with it, for the very ſame uſe of cleanſing, which is proper to all ſalts. And I myſelf have fetched a ſpot out of my garment, by wetting the place, and laying nitre upon it, and rubbing it hard on. But I cannot find what is the oppoſition between vinegar and nitre. And therefore I beg your information, to,

SIR, your obliged ſervant,

THO. HYDE.

IF

IF you can inform me, how I may ſend a letter to *Tangier*, it would be a favour unto me; for I have ſcarce been able to make a letter arrive ſafely thither.

SIR, *Oxford, New-years-day*, 1677.

I LATELY met with Dr. *Maſters*, the chancellor of *Exeter*, concerning whom I lately wrote unto you, that he had a brother reſiding at the Fort of St. *George* at *Matreſpatan* in *India*, who is governor of all our factories thereabouts, and that he might be ſerviceable to you. He tells me, that he was twice at the *Eaſt-India* houſe, in hopes to have met you there; and that he hath ſent to his brother ſome of the prefaces, which I gave him; and that he doth not doubt, but that his brother will be moſt ready to recommend the buſineſs of the propagation of the Goſpel to thoſe chaplains, who are upon the factories, the doctor having written to him to that purpoſe at my requeſt; ſo that if you ſhould think fit to ſend any books thither, he will manage them to the beſt advantage: and he will in the mean time get for us ſome helps for the *Malayan* language.

I HAVE been told, that there is a merchant at *Kenſington*, near *London*, who uſeth to puzzle all people with a ſtrange book. I wiſh we could find any means to know what it is.

I MAKE bold to requeſt your advice in the behalf of two friends of mine, who are perpetually troubled with a great heat in their blood, and biting and gnawing in their ſtomach and guts, and it hath been ſo for three or four years: and I cannot gueſs what ſhould be the cauſe, unleſs perchance by the often taking of mercurius dulcis. For by the advice of ſomebody or other, they uſed always, when they took any purging pills, to add ſeveral grains of ſweet mercury, to make it ſtrongly purgative. Wherefore I would intreat to know your opinion, whether mercury may poſſibly have any ſuch laſting effects, as gnawing and excoriation of the ſtomach, and putting a conſtant heat into the blood? And if ſo, then I would intreat you to inform me, if you know any thing may correct and check that corroding quality; for the perſons are my near relations. The beſt thing they have yet found, is ſallet-oil, which being drank, gives preſent eaſe and cooling, even as water doth extinguiſh a fire: but it doth not remove the cauſe. They have tried many other things, but in vain; and purging doth no good. If they eat or drink any thing, which is ſalt or naturally hot, it puts them to pain and griping. One of them had the corroding ſharp humour once beginning to break forth upon the outſide of the ſtomach, and then had eaſe: but it unhappily ſunk in again, and then the pain returned. I hope you received my account of *Lullius*'s books. And ſo wiſhing you a merry *Chriſtmas*, and a good new-year, I remain,

SIR,

your ever obliged friend and ſervant,

T. HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, Feb.* 17, 1677-8.

I HAVE here incloſed a tranſcript of the life of *Raymund Lullius*, according to two authors, which is all we have concerning his life. You may allow the tranſcriber what you pleaſe. Here is alſo an account of the number of leaves in all, which we have of him, either printed or manuſcript; by which any body may eaſily make an eſtimate of the number of ſheets. I humbly thank you for your kindneſs to the *Perſ-Armenian*. I have alſo ſhewed thoſe worthy gentlemen of *Holſtein*, what could poſſibly be done in ſo ſhort a time as their ſtay was at *Oxford*. I ſhewed Dr. *Sall* that part

part of your letter, which concerned him, and he returns you his very humble ſervice with many thanks, which he deſired me to do for him, that ſo he might not give you the trouble of a letter for that alone.

I THINK I remember you told me, that you had found ſome of my papers of notes upon the ſcripture: what you have found, I would intreat you to be pleaſed to ſend unto me, and the reſt as ſoon as you can light upon them; for I would as faſt as I can review them, and try what thoſe with ſome others of like nature will amount to. Thoſe which I ſent you were upon the beginning of *Geneſis* and the beginning of St. *Matthew*. This is all at preſent from,

SIR,

your deeply obliged, and

moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Public Library, Oxon, Aug.* 2, 1678.

UPON the information from my worthy friend Dr. *Marſhall*, how well the archbiſhop of *Canterbury* and other great perſons did reſent the buſineſs of the *Malayan* and the propagation of the goſpel thereby, I made bold lately to trouble you with a letter about it, intreating alſo the *Eaſt-India* company might be a little farther ſtirred up in that matter. But my preſent occaſion of writing to you, is to inform you, that a country gentleman, who came to *Oxford* laſt night, reported, that the miniſter of *Stalbridge* is dead. And if the report be true, and the place be void, I humbly and earneſtly intreat you to be pleaſed to remember me, and favour me with the next preſentation, which will be a making to me for ever. And then I ſhall not have need of the library, nor of any thing elſe. I have been told by ſome perſons, who live not far from *Stalbridge*, that your ſteward uſed ſome dealings laſt time, which I am ſure you would not allow of, if you had known it: and I only give you an hint of it, that ſo you may prevent him for the future. When I ſhall have any occaſion to wait upon you, I ſhall acquaint you with more particulars about it. In the mean time hoping for your favour, I remain,

SIR,

your ever obliged, and

moſt humble ſervant,

THO. HYDE.

I HAVE a friend gone this day towards *Dorſetſhire*, who will ſpeedily give an account by the poſt, whether the information about *Stalbridge* was true or not.

SIR, *Oxon, Dec.* 9, 1679.

ACCORDING to your deſire, I have conſulted the natural hiſtory of *Mexico* by *Francis Hernandez*, and I do not there find any mention of the Jeſuit's powder not under any name or title, which I could imagine fit or profitable to be ſearched: ſo that I do conclude, that there is not any thing of it. But I found there another antifebrific plant, the deſcription whereof I have here incloſed, ſuppoſing it might be grateful to your friend, to know any thing of the ſame nature with the thing he ſearched for. I have alſo conſulted Dr. *Moriſon*, who doth not know any thing about

the plant or tree, of which the Jeſuit's powder is made. As for *Andreas Solea*, we have not any thing of him.

As for the copy of the letter out of *Eaſt-India*, I think the ſubſtance of it may without prejudice be ſhewed to any body, if you pleaſe to let your man tranſcribe a copy of it, omitting the name of the author at the beginning, and the ſubſcription of the Fort St. *George* at the latter end. And the ſame favour I begged of the biſhop of *London*, in which, I hope, he will gratify my requeſt, although he hath not ſent me my anſwer; neither do I hear any thing of his receipt of the *Malayan* goſpels, which I ſent unto him: but I hope the carrier was careful to deliver the book. If it comes into your mind, when you next happen into his company, I humbly intreat the favour, that you would pleaſe to know of him, whether the copy of the letter from *India* came to him or not? I am not certain of any occaſion, which may bring me up to *London* this winter; and the roads are dangerous, for this very week the *Oxford* waggon and coach were both robbed upon *London* road, and laſt week there were ſeveral robberies committed upon people going to *Woodſtock* fair, and near *Abington* one killed, who was heard to cry out murder, and by the track of his blood down to the water-ſide, it is gueſſed his body was thrown into the river. And this laſt week we had a young ſcholar, a ſervitor, murthered in *Baliol* college, in his own chamber, by a townſman, who formerly had been a dragoon, now a taylor. He by his acquaintance with the ſcholar came to know, that he had a parcel of money ſent to him by his friends, in order to the taking of his degree: whereupon this taylor borrowed an hatchet, and pretending to give a viſit to the ſcholar, while he was gone down to the buttery, attempted to break open his ſtudy: but the ſcholar coming up again ſooner than he expected, and ſo finding him in the fact, the taylor grew reſolute and deſperate, and with the ſame hatchet killed the ſcholar, cutting him about the head and face, and afterwards carried away his money, and his linen, which was after found upon him with the mark of the ſcholar's name; and it is found of whom he borrowed the hatchet, which was found bloody; and the taylor being apprehended, hath confeſſed all things. But I have treſpaſſed upon your patience, and therefore I beg, that you will pardon,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate, and
and humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

Incloſed in the preceding.

Franc. Hernandez, Hiſt. rerum Mexicanarum, Lib. IV. *cap.* 21.

De Ytzticpatli frutice febrifugâ.

YTzticpatlis, quem alii Tegonquilitl vocant, frutex eſt radicem fundens craſſam & longam, intus candentem teneramque, plenam ſucco, & ex eâ ſtipites purpureos; folia in plures cuſpides diviſa, & has ipſas interdum ſinuoſas quoque. Florem candentem ac parvum; & fructum rotundum, Ponticis nucibus penè parem. Naſcitur in collibus Hoitzocenſibus. Radix dempto cortice, qui impensè refrigerat, in lævorem redacta, adverſus febres ſolet devorari. Jus decocti ejus, loco aquæ fontanæ aut fluvialis bibitum, eundem ujum præſtat, præter quod calidas quaſvis intemperies emendat ac corrigit. Nec eſt planta ulla apud has gentes, quæ in extinguendo calore, majori in pretio habetur, aut poſſit huic aliquo modo comparari.

After

After this deſcription, are added theſe notes.

Ad geranium fortè pertinet hæc planta: ſed repugnat radix tenera ſucco plena, quæ obſcurè rubet, folium ferè cannabis. Caules etiam rubent: fructus nodo concluſus non conſpicitur. Exponere hîc libuit hanc quoque Malvaceæ, ut videtur, earum regionum imaginem, cui quamvis in autographo nomen inſcriptum non ſit, à nonnullis tamen affinis prædictæ Ytzticpatli cenſetur: folia quidem ſunt Geranii, flos ex alâ pediculo longo inſidet. Calix magnus fere caſtaneus, flos luteus, pallidus, radix craſſa.

BY this you ſee, that there is *Ytzticpatli ſimpliciter ſic dicta*; and another ſort called *Ytzticpatli Malvacea*; both which have their icones or braſs cuts expreſſed. You may alſo obſerve by the deſcription, that this is the only plant among them, which cooleth the blood, and is good againſt fevers: and that therefore probably the other plant, of which the powder is made, is not to be expected in theſe parts.

SIR, *Oxon, July* 14, 1683.

I AM aſhamed, that I ſhould be ſo long in acknowledging the receipt of the book of the *China* pulſe. But if I had written ſooner, it muſt have been an empty letter nothing to the purpoſe, becauſe I could not till within theſe few days get the judgment of a perſon, which I much deſired, who is an ingenious phyſician in our univerſity. He told me, that he had heard ſuch great things of the *Chineſe*'s ſkill in feeling pulſes, and had read in Dr. *Voſſius*'s *De Viribus Rhythmi* ſuch a mighty character of them upon that account, that he expected to find very great and uſeful things in this book, as being their oracle, from whence all their phyſic (eſpecially the diagnoſtic part) was deduced. But he was extremely deceived in his expectation, there being little in it but an heap of irrational directions; and indeed could not be expected to be much otherwiſe from a people wholly ignorant of anatomy, which can only give light in this philoſophy. For if they miſtake the diſeaſe, they have no way to rectify themſelves, ſince by the cuſtom of the country they muſt not diſſect the carcaſe, and ſo diſcover their miſtake. Yet they have luckily hit upon ſome things, which are very pretty: as firſt, they ſaw the neceſſity of a circulation of the blood before ever the *Europeans* dreamed of it, *viz.* four thouſand years ſince; but their account of it is ſomewhat monſtrous. Only herein they have hit pretty right, in that they ſay circulation begins at the lungs, and ends in the liver, which is ſomething agreeable to the truth. Their circulation is performed fifty times in twenty-four hours, or twelve *Chineſe* hours. But why? Becauſe the heavens, which they divide into fifty houſes, are turned about in that time. For they have a ſtrange fancy of comparing the microcoſm with the macrocoſm, and thence fall into a thouſand errors. 2dly, They have one rule in feeling pulſes very rational, not much obſerved amongſt us, *viz.* an accurate obſervation of the proportion betwixt the pulſe and reſpiration, of which you may ſee a critical acount page 16th and the 79th.

NOTHING can be more abſurd than their rules in judging by pulſe. For why ſhould the ſun, and moon, and the three pulſes of each hand, be correſpondent to the three regions of the body? And then it is a wonder they take no care of the brain, no pulſe being allowed to diſcover its diſorders, though even the pericardium be reckoned amongſt the principal viſcera. Hence, I think, I may boldly infer, that their ætiology is horribly ridiculous.

SOME tell us, that the *Chineſe* without aſking one queſtion or inſpection of [illegible], only by the pulſe will infallibly diſcover any diſeaſe: and thoſe [*Voſſius*] who aſſert this, do hence take occaſion to expoſe the ignorance of *European* phyſicians. We have indeed ſeveral ſtories of this nature, but how true, I know not. But what-

ſoever empirics they are, I am ſure they are no philoſophers. That the doctrine of pulſes may be improved, is very certain; partly by feeling the pulſes of ſeveral parts of the body (for if the circulation of the blood be unequal, either by obſtruction, inflammation, &c. in any part, the pulſe muſt needs thereabout be briſker and ſtronger) and partly by obſerving, whether it be hard or ſoft, &c. which ſeems to depend upon the conſtriction or relaxation of the nervous coat of the arteries, whence the indoles and temper of the ſpirits may be found out. But I have not time to inſiſt on theſe things at preſent. I ſhall only add a pretty odd reaſon, which the *Chineſe* have againſt phlebotomy, which they wholly condemn, *viz.* As hot water is not cooled by taking away part of it, but by pouring cold water into it; ſo is it in the blood. Thus I have in brief given you my ingenious friend's opinion upon it. He had not time to make a full and exact obſervation of every thing.

HERE alſo comes to you a tranſlation of that tract of yours, which you preſcribed, ſhould be begun upon as a ſpecimen, to try how the tranſlator could deal with your chemical and philoſophical matters in *Latin*. If he hath not done all things according to your deſire in the ſpecimen, be pleaſed to give us farther directions, which will ſerve for future procedures of this kind. For Mr. *Waſe* hath ſo great a command of *Greek* and *Latin*, that he can manage the ſtyle, how you will pleaſe to have him do it. And ſo when he once knows, which way you like beſt, he will be ſure to follow it. He followed the quarto edition of your tract; and therein page 37. he prays me to examine, whether he hath done right about the conſtruction of double concave glaſſes, page 48. he doth not fully comprehend what you mean by tin hour-glaſſes; but he hath tranſlated verbatim. He prays you would pleaſe to conſider, whether there be not ſome miſtake in your *Engliſh*, pag. 16. where you range gravity firſt amongſt the more, and immediately after amongſt the leſs catholic affections of matter. He deſires to know, whether he muſt follow the known terms in chemiſtry in *Greek* words, or rather turn them into *Latin?* As pag. 4. whether for ſo obvious a phænomenon, he ſhould ſay, *Rem tam obvium*, pag. 7. of that ſtrange and unexpected phænomenon, *id arcani omnium opinioni refragantis*. Page 16. Springineſs, *elaſticitas*, or *elaſtica vis:* query whether not rather *tenſio* or *tortio;* for in *Greek elaſticitas* properly imports only ductility. He deſires to know, whether you permit him to depart from the abuſes of the *Greek* words, *viz.* whether for *Diaphanus, a, um*, of a falſe declenſion and analogy, you permit him to uſe *Diaphanes* and *Diaphanón*. But I ſuppoſe in all theſe and ſuch like things, you would rather he ſhould ſtick to the received words, which are beſt known in chemiſtry. And therefore when he hath your directions once, he will know how to go on always.

THE tract tranſlated made forty-nine pages in your *Engliſh* quarto, which makes ſix ſheets and one page. So that at the rate you propoſed of ten ſhillings *per* ſheet, it comes to three pounds. Dr. *Watſon*, a phyſician of *Dundee* in *Scotland*, as he paſſed through *Oxford* two months agone, preſſed me hard to know ſome ſecret medicine, which you told him I had formerly imparted to you out of ſome *Arabic* book: but he could not tell me what it was about, and ſo I could not recollect what it was, nor where I had it. And I promiſed him to write to you, praying you would tell me what it concerned, that ſo I might retrieve it for him. Wherefore if you can pleaſe to mind me what it concerned, he will be mightily pleaſed. And now having been ſo tedious already, I ſhall not detain you any longer than to profeſs myſelf,

SIR, your ever obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
THOMAS HYDE.

Good

Good SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, Feb.* 24, 1683-4.

I RETURN you my moſt humble thanks for your hiſtory of human Blood, which I received of Mr. *Davis*, together with another copy for the public library, both bound. I doubt not but to receive much both pleaſure and ſatisfaction in the reading of it. I remember you were pleaſed to tell me, that you were about an hiſtory of the Air, which will alſo be a deſirable and very acceptable variety, whenever you ſhall think fit to favour the world with ſo curious a treatiſe by ſo able an hand.

Now that the ſevere weather is gone, and ſtudying weather begins to come in, I was in good hope to have done ſomething in my ſtudies: but our curators of the library have deviſed ſome new troubles for me to loſe my time, and rob me of it. So that I muſt only wiſh for ſuch a condition, wherein I might have quietneſs and ſome tolerable command of my time, ſo as to be able to call it my own, and not be a ſlave to other men's humours. I have made conſiderable progreſs in notes upon the ſcripture, and the hiſtory of the kings of *Perſia*, and the religion of the old *Perſians*, and divers other ſubjects of the like nature: but enjoyment of my time and of quietneſs (the loſs of which I deplore) muſt bring them to perfection. I will not now treſpaſs upon your time any farther, than only to ſubſcribe myſelf,

SIR,

your ever obliged, and

moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, Sept.* 23, 1684.

I HAVE received of Mr. *Davis* two copies of your book concerning the poroſity of bodies, for which I moſt humbly thank you, and for all other your favours. As for the buſineſs of the hoſpital, our biſhop tells me, that ſuch a thing is intended; but it is as yet merely in propoſal, there being nothing done in order to it. There muſt firſt be ground purchaſed, and then a building raiſed, and then by temporary ſubſcriptions of well-diſpoſed perſons to maintain ſome number of ſick and lame people. Perhaps about a year hence, we may be able to tell you more about it; for I do not perceive any thing likely to be done in it ſuddenly. As for the *Malayan* grammar of Mr. *Mainſtone*, Dr. *Marſhall* is not now in *Oxford:* but the biſhop tells me, that it is a pitiful trifle, not of any worth. However when Dr. *Marſhall* comes home, I will diſcourſe with him farther about it. What I requeſted of you to the counteſs of *Rocheſter*, I humbly remind you of it: a general character and recommendation to favour will be ſufficient at preſent. I remain,

SIR,

your moſt obliged,

and ready ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon, March* 21, 1684-5.

I HUMBLY thank you for your letter, giving me an account of my miſinformation about Mr. *Rich* and *Stalbridge*. And theſe my thanks I had ſooner returned, but that I waited to get a ſight of *Maimbourg*'s book, which I could not light upon till within theſe three days. I peruſed part of it myſelf, and communicated it to a judicious friend alſo to peruſe it. And we find, that in his preface he owneth, that the

the deſign of his book is to remove thoſe obſtacles caſt in the way by the rigid part of the church of *Rome*, which hinder thoſe of a different perſuaſion from joining with them: and this he doth in order to ſerve the king of *France* in the deſign of uniting all the ſubjects into the ſame opinion, and bringing them all to the church of *Rome*. And in order to this, he denieth the pope's infallibility, and his ſupremacy in temporals, and his indirect ſupremacy (if I rightly remember) whereby he hath power over princes, ſo far as to ſerve the occaſions of the church (as the Jeſuits contend) though they cannot give him an abſolute and direct power over them. And he alſo makes the pope inferior to a general council. And theſe things do much eclipſe the power of the pope, who (as I am informed) did therefore excommunicate Mr. *Maimbourg*. This is the matter of fact: but if you would know any thing farther, as what inferences may be made from it, or any thing of that nature, be pleaſed to give me an hint of your mind in any particulars, and I ſhall give you the beſt information I can. But as yet I have not heard much ſaid of it.

As to what you once told me about papyrus, that it ſeemed to have a kind of groſs thready grain, I have ſince lighted upon a piece of the ſame matter, which I find is not papyrus, but the leaf of a certain kind of *Indian* palm, with leaves as broad as a buſhel, out of which they cut long narrow ſlips, and write upon them ſometimes with a ſharp iron-ſteel, and ſometimes with ink, and that in the language of ſeveral of thoſe countries.

BUT about the true papyrus, I am as yet unreſolved. When I can ſerve you in any thing, be pleaſed to favour me, by giving ſo good an opportunity to him, who is always moſt readily and freely,

SIR,

your ever obliged,

and moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Public Library, Oxon, July* 26, 1687.

THE bearer hereof, the *Chineſe*, hath been with us at *Oxford*, to make a catalogue of our *Chineſe* books, and to inform us about the ſubjects of them. We have ſome of *Confucius*'s books; but moſt of what we have is phyſic. He is extremely well verſed in his own language, having ſtudied it many years, and alſo *Confucius*'s philoſophy, which he doth not praiſe. He is a very good-natured man, ſtudious and induſtrious, and ſober. His *Latin* is a little imperfect; but it is well he hath any *Latin*; for before him there was never but one (who is dead) that underſtood any *Latin*. And now this is the only man left. I have made what uſe of him I could in a few days, loſing no time ever ſince he hath been with me. He tells me, that in his province of *Nankin* (*i. e.* the ſouth-court) they have but two months of winter, and very little ice or ſnow. The temper of the clime is much better than *England*, only hotter: but about *Pekin* (or the north-court) it is cold enough. You may make a ſhift to underſtand him, though he ſpeaks but imperfectly. He was very deſirous to be recommended to your favour and friendſhip by,

SIR,

your ever obliged,

and moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS HYDE.

His

HIS name is *Michael Shin-fo-çung*, whereof *Shin* is the name of his family, and *fo-çung*, *i. e. felicitatis radix*, is his own name. It is the manner always to put first the name of the family, as *Cung-fu-çu*, where *Cung* is the family name, signifying *foramen*, nothing to the purpose: but *fu-çu* signifies *magister*.

SIR, *Public Library, Oxon, Oct.* 25, 1688.

I HAVE considered, that if you would have me to do any thing in the *Malayan* language, it is absolutely necessary, that I should be furnished with all such helps as can be found. Now those helps, which are found, are written in the *Dutch* language, which I do not understand. We have in *Dutch* and *Malayan* a grammar and two vocabularies, which must of necessity be translated, if you would have me do any thing for you in that language, we being destitute of fit helps for it. And therefore I would gladly know by the next post, whether you will be pleased to be at the charge of paying for the translating of them, which being but thin books, cannot cost much. The reason why I would have such a speedy answer, is, because we have with us now a man, who is able to translate them, who will in a week's time be gone from us, unless I can set him upon it presently. And he being a grammatical and critical man, I perhaps may not find such another.

I ALSO intreat, that you would be pleased to hasten the 3 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.* which is due to the poor letter-founder, he being in great want of it. Yesterday the bishop of *Winchester* returned to *Oxford*, and this day he is to readmit the president and fellows of *Magdalen* college. And I remain,

SIR,

your obliged, and
humble servant,
THOMAS HYDE.

SIR, *Public Library, Oxon, Dec.* 29, 1688.

THIS is to acquaint you, that I long since received of Mr. *Bartlet* the money due to the letter-founder, who through several sicknesses, and the burden of many children, and want of work during this time of troubles, is in great want; so that unless we can find him some work to help him, he must presently miscarry and run away from us; for he hath five small children, and not one jot of work or money to maintain them. I myself have contributed something towards his maintenance, because he is the life of all our printing designs. And though it is an ill time to propose any thing of charge, yet I must take the freedom to acquaint you, that if you design any thing ever to be printed in *Malayan*, it is absolutely necessary to preserve this man in *Oxford*; otherwise all you have done already is lost. For there are several other things for the *Malayan* to be cut and cast, which must be done in *Oxford*, where I am present, to give direction; for at a distance nothing of that nature can be done.

WHEREFORE I have lately perused the *Malayan* grammar, and considered as accurately as I can, what more will be wanting, in case any thing is to be printed in the *Malayan* character; and upon consideration I do find, that those things, which are farther yet to be cut and cast by the founder, will amount to about six or seven pounds. The sum is not great. Now if, for the preservation of this man, you will be so kind as to set him on work, now at this time, it will be both a great act of charity towards the maintenance of his poor family, and also help you to obtain the pious end of

perfecting

perfecting your *Malayan* deſign, which is yet imperfect, and muſt be loſt, unleſs this man is preſerved in *Oxford*.

AND I muſt farther add, that if, upon the grounds and reaſons above-mentioned, you do think fit to ſet him preſently on work for the completing of what is yet wanting, you muſt pleaſe to ſend down ſix pounds now preſently, beforehand, becauſe of his preſſing neceſſities; and for your ſecurity, I will take of him ſome certain pledges of double the value, until he ſhall perfect and complete ſuch things as you yet want, equal to the value of that ſum, which you ſhall ſend to me.

I SHOULD not propoſe this to you at ſuch a juncture of affairs, but that I do think the preſervation of ſuch an artiſt with us to be abſolutely neceſſary to all literary deſigns, and particularly that of the *Malayan*; and it is alſo the ſupporting a parcel of fatherleſs children. If you intend the thing ever to be done, it is but doing it now a little ſooner. And it is not given, becauſe he will do work equal to the money. And therefore I hope you will be pleaſed to pardon this earneſtneſs of,

SIR,

your affectionate and humble ſervant,

T. HYDE.

SIR, *Public Library, Oxon, Feb.* 23, 1688-9.

WE have now (God be thanked) cut the punchions, and ſtamped or ſtruck the matrices, and caſt ſuch a parcel of *Malayan* letters, as might keep within the compaſs of the money you ſent, that ſo I might not put you to any new charges. And the founder remaineth in our debt about ten or twelve ſhillings, which I ſhall leave till another time, becauſe we ſhall probably want ſome few ſorts of ſome kind or other, which cannot be foreſeen, till trial of printing: neither was it poſſible to gueſs at the quantity of letters to be caſt, ſo exactly to anſwer the money, as that there ſhould be nothing over or under.

I FORMERLY acquainted you, that the printing of St. *Luke* and the *Acts* in the *Malayan* letter, would make about thirty ſheets, which may coſt the printing near about ſixty pounds. But I take it for granted, that you will not begin upon it, until your affairs are better in *Ireland*. But in the mean time, ſome preparatory care may be taken, in order to it, by getting ſome helps for the more perfect underſtanding of the language; that ſo what I ſhall do for you may be ſolid and authentic. For I find, that the *Dutch* prints, which we have followed, and which we are to follow, have many literal faults, which I muſt be able to correct, that ſo I may not turn thoſe faults into a *Malayan* character, and make the thing ſeem nonſenſe to the natives, for whom you intend it. And furthermore, the *Dutch* way of expreſſing the ſounds of the *Malayan* words is ſo diverſe in itſelf, and ſo unintelligible to us, that without accurate ſkill in the language, it will be often difficult, and ſometimes impoſſible, from their writing, to know how to put the words into *Malayan* letters: to the obviating of which difficulty, it would be neceſſary to get ſome vocabulary, where the words are expreſſed according to our *Engliſh* way of ſounding them. And to this purpoſe it were earneſtly to be wiſhed, that you would uſe your intereſt with counſellor *Jones* of *Lincoln's-Inn*, to procure the *Malayan* papers of his brother-in-law, Mr. *Mainſtone*, deceaſed, who, when he lived in *India*, had prepared for that language a dictionary, which he intended to print. And the ſooner this were done, ſo much the better, that ſo I may have time to ſtudy the language, and fit myſelf for the buſineſs to be done.

SIR,

SIR, I formerly made my humble requeſt to you, that you would be pleaſed to beſtow upon me the next preſentation to *Stalbridge* in *Dorſetſhire* in your patronage: for that wicked wretch, Mr. *Rich*, is fled, and never like to appear there again; ſuch have been his groſs and ſcurrilous abuſes againſt the prince of *Orange*, and his adulteries and other immoralities, and his turning papiſt, or promiſing to do it, *&c.* that he hath certainly merited deprivation, and the men of the pariſh are in wait to lay him in priſon, when they can catch him. So that there is abundant matter for his ejection, there being ſufficient proof of theſe things, as ſome of the pariſh do now tell me. So that I do now humbly renew my requeſt of that preſentation; to the obtaining whereof, though I will not plead merit, yet I might hope from you with more pretence than others can, I having formerly done you near a year's ſervice in the printed *Malayan*, and am ſtill like to do you more ſervice in the ſame language, in which I am ſure there is no man now alive in *England*, who is able to ſerve you beſides myſelf. And I am ſure, that whenever we begin, it will coſt me at leaſt two years pains to bring to paſs the thing which you deſire and deſign. For beſides my preparatory ſtudies, to accompliſh me for the well doing of that work, the very tranſcribing of ſo much matter into a ſtrange character, will be a long and tedious taſk; and afterwards to correct it at the preſs will be another taſk as great. And ſeeing it is in your power to reward me, without any charge to your purſe, it ſhould ſeem better to give it to me, than to ſomebody elſe, who perhaps will not be ſo able to ſerve both you and the public. For if I were ſo far enabled, as to ſpare any thing from buying my bread, I ſhould both cut all ſorts of exotic letters, and publiſh things both uſeful and curious, which otherwiſe will never be done, but muſt die and be buried with me. And yet no body will vouchſafe to conſider me, nor redeem me out of this low condition. Be pleaſed to pardon my prolixity.

I HAVE by *Bartlet* at the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane*, ſent a little book wrapped in paper and directed to you; not well remembering, whether I had preſented it to you or not. If he doth not bring it to you on next *Wedneſday*, you may pleaſe to let your ſervant fetch it on *Thurſday*. It is about ſome *China* matters. And I have by me, upon ſeveral other heads, much more of that *China* learning, which (if any would be at the charge of printing) might perhaps not be ungrateful to the curious. I have incloſed alſo a leaf of an *Hebrew* book, which I am now printing; of which I told you, that when it ſhould be printed, I would then do ſomething upon the Bible. Having none other by me, I was forced to ſend that foul leaf, by which, however, you may make a ſhift to read my note upon *Taprobana*, whereby you may make ſome gueſs at the reſt of the book. Sir, in the abovementioned buſineſs you may eternally oblige

Your moſt humble,
and ready ſervant,
T. HYDE.

SIR, *Oxon, March* 5, 1690.

I HUMBLY thank you, for giving me notice of the company's intention of ſending two chaplains into *India*; though that part of *India* will not ſerve my occaſions of learning, there being not about thoſe parts any of the people or books, after which I am enquiring, as I was informed by Mr. *Gifford*, formerly governor of that fort, who did the beſt he could for me, but could effect nothing, for the reaſon aforeſaid. But however I am glad to get *Oxford* men to be employed to that part, becauſe I ſhall find out ſome way, wherein they may be ſerviceable to our univerſity. And therefore

therefore I would beg you to be pleaſed to ſecure the two chaplains places for two very fit perſons, whom I have ſought out for that ſervice. And in my next I ſhall give you a more particular account of them.

THAT, which I chiefly deſire (and which would improve the deſigns of learning) is to get a chaplain to *Bombay*, or rather to *Surat:* for partly there, and partly by the frequent opportunities of ſending by the caravans into *Perſia*, he may do very good ſervice. And therefore if by Sir *Joſiah Child*, or any other intereſt in the company, you can procure me the nomination of a chaplain to the hither parts of *India*, I do humbly beg it of you. To Sir *John Chardin* I would intreat my ſervice may be preſented, I having been formerly known to him, and have ſpoke *Perſian* with him. He hath formerly ſhewed me ſome of his inſcriptions, of which I ſhall tell you more by diſcourſe, when I can get to *London*. He formerly entruſted me with one or two of them, to his advantage: and I ſhould be glad, if he would pleaſe to entruſt me with the reſt of them to *Oxford*, where I might endeavour the unriddling of them, for his ſatisfaction, as well as mine own; and particularly, I would ſee the delineation of a *Perſian* king, who is poſited as adoring the ſun and the fire. If I cannot unriddle them, I am ſure none in *England* can do it; there being none elſe (except Sir *John*) who underſtands the modern *Perſian*, and much leſs any thing of the ancient. The other perſon, who favours my deſigns, I ſhould be glad to know ſome time, when you think it proper for,

SIR,

your affectionate and humble ſervant,

T. HYDE.

SIR, my eyes being of late troubled with a watery humour (but not painful) eſpecially in the night time, when I lie down in my bed, I would beg the favour of you to tell me the beſt way of uſing eye-bright, and what hurts or inconveniencies are in it; and whether taking of nitre (as my lord *Bacon* did) be of any uſe to that purpoſe.

SIR, *Oxon, June* 11, 1691.

I RECEIVED yours with the incloſed paper from *Joſiah Child*, which is very ſatisfactory; and accordingly I ſhall order two perſons to fit themſelves for the ſervice required of them. And in order to it, I would willingly write to Sir *Joſiah Child* myſelf, if I knew where he is at preſent, and how I may direct my letter to him. And therefore I would humbly beg the favour of that information from you. To Sir *John Chardin* I would alſo write, who uſed to live in *Leiceſter-fields*. But in the ſaid paper I ſee a date from *Turnham-Green*, which perhaps is now his habitation.

Now ſince I perceive the good inclinations of the company to do ſomething for the ſervice of God and religion, it may perhaps be ſeaſonable to remind them of educating ſome chaplains to be furniſhed with the *Malayan* language for the propagation of the Goſpel. The deſign was ſome years agone propoſed by the pious biſhop *Fell*, and in a manner agreed to by the company, and I cannot tell by what accident diverted. The propoſal, which the biſhop urged, was, that the company ſhould allow annually twenty-five pounds apiece to four young men, who ſhall ſtudy the *Malayan* for four years, and oblige themſelves to the ſervice of the company, when required to it. And to me the biſhop had ſpoken to be tutor or inſtructor to the ſaid young men in the *Malayan* language, it being part of his propoſal to them, that they ſhould allow a decent ſalary to ſuch a tutor. This is not proper for me to move,

move, leſt, coming from ſo mean a perſon, ſhould ſpoil the deſign. But it would be very proper for you to preſs it forwards to Sir *Joſiah*, and you are the only perſon to move it. And therefore if you would pleaſe to take the trouble of being a little active in putting it forward, it would be for the glory of God, which you deſigned in your private capacity to have promoted by the help of the *Malayan* language, if public affairs had not run croſs to you. Be pleaſed to afford two or three lines to

Your humble ſervant,

T. HYDE.

Letters from Dr. PETER DU MOULIN *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Canterbury, Dec.* 28, 1669.

TO the ambition of publiſhing my verſes I have added a greater, preſuming to honour them with your name in the front of the epiſtle. I have now ſome copies of them by me, of which in duty I ſhould ſend you the firſt that appears abroad, and without delay, but that the great froſt puts a delay upon book-binder's work. And truly I would have taken order, that it had been ſent to you from *Cambridge*, where it was printed, but that I would correct ſome important faults with my hand. I might have put off this addreſs to you, Sir, till my other in print had been ready, but that I was afraid you ſhould hear by others of the coming out of the book, either from *London* or *Cambridge*. Be pleaſed, Sir, to pardon all errors, and accept of the forwardneſs of my humble affection, in telling unto the world in print, how really I honour your great worth, and value the love, wherewith you have graced me. One of the prime licenſers of the book, Dr. *Gunning*, would not ſuffer the heroics in commendation of the Royal Society to be printed with their fellows. It grieves me to ſee a feud between that noble Society and the Univerſities, to which Mr. *Glanvill*'s books have much contributed. Your great credit, prudence, and moderation, may ſtop that growing evil, if any thing in the world can. That honour and bleſſedneſs may attend your piety and virtue for ever, is the prayer of,

SIR,

your trueſt honourer,
and humbleſt ſervant,

PETER DU MOULIN.

MY wife is your humbleſt ſervant.

SIR, *Canterbury, July* 3, 1671.

I RECEIVED your late encouragements, (which to me are commands) to make the tranſlation of the *French* king's declarations againſt the proteſtants; and I have by riſing early found time to do it. It is about a fortnight ſince I had done a moiety of it, and there made a ſtop; yet to reſume it, when I have laid up ſome materials for a preface, and made them into ſome form, which afterwards may ripen by me, while I am tranſlating the other moiety. The truth is, Sir, I am ſtung with a jealouſy of God, at the pride, inſolence, and uncharitableneſs of our men of preferment, that unchurch all our churches: and I intend (God aſſiſting me with his grace) to take occaſion of theſe miſeries of our brethren, to make them (for others, that are better Chriſtians than they) ſenſible how criminal before God and man is

their inſultation. Handling that argument as a moderate epiſcopal man, that is as myſelf, who yet will forbear to put my name to it, a cuſtom lately begun, which gives ſomewhat more liberty to the writer. When I have done, I intend to put it in your hands, Sir, *ut arbitrio ſletve cadat-ve tuo*, knowing that I cannot call to council more wiſdom and more goodneſs. That God join to it the bleſſings of bodily health and ſpiritual comfort is the prayer of,

SIR,

your moſt hearty honourer,

and humbleſt ſervant,

PETER DU MOULIN.

THE firſt time that I aſked a licence to print my Παρεργα at *Cambridge*, Dr. *Gunning* got it upon condition, that the verſes to the Royal Society were put out of the manuſcript.

BUT the licence for the Incrementum, where thoſe verſes are, was got in his abſence.

GIVE me leave, Sir, here to preſent my beſt ſervice to my honourable lady *Ranelagh* and to her noble daughters. The like to them and yourſelf from my wife your moſt humble ſervant.

BE pleaſed, Sir, to burn this letter.

SIR, *Canterbury, Oct.* 1, 1673.

MR. *John du Bois*, a merchant dwelling in *Aldermanbury* near the church, to whom I have committed my tranſlation, had promiſed me to bring it to you. But either your abſence from the *Pall-Mall*, or his from the city, have hindered his performance. I have renewed my requeſt to him by letters this week. When he hath delivered it to you, you may be pleaſed to uſe that friend's kindneſs, who hath promiſed to get it printed. Give me leave, Sir, to entertain you with another buſineſs. Mr. *Peregrine Bertie*, who is a member of the Houſe of Commons, told me, that at their laſt ſeſſion a motion was made by Sir *Thomas Clarges*, that I ſhould be ſent for, to juſtify that, which I have undertaken in my book againſt *Philanax*, to make good before authority about a deputation of ſome Jeſuits from their brethren in *England* to the *Sorbonne*, and ſo to *Rome*, about their deſign of promoting the late king's death. But that ſome wiſe men of the Houſe would not have me ſent for, till it was known firſt what I could ſay. This put me to a neceſſity to prepare myſelf, that I might not be ſent for being unready; and I have ſet down in the paper, that I ſent to you, all that I can ſay. The like I have given to Sir *Edward Deering*, and may give the like to ſome other parliament-men, hoping, that ſeeing all that I can ſay, they will not ſend for me. You may ſoon ſee, that if I had been ſent for, when I made this offer, I had convincing proofs. But the main witneſs being dead ſince, I cannot convince an adverſary, but perſuade all equitable judges with the clearneſs of my evidences. My buſineſs is now, and with me of all wiſe and pious proteſtants, to look out more intelligences of the behaviour of the papiſts, in two conjunctures; the one about the time of the king's death, the other in 1663, when my book appeared firſt; and the mention of that deputation ſtruck an extreme terror into thoſe malefactors, of whom Sir *Kenelm Digby* was the head. In this important occurrence I do in all humility conſult the oracle of your wiſdom, and crave the aſſiſtance of your love.

love. I have found you ſtored with the beſt intelligences, as in nature, ſo in ſtate, which at this time would be very conducible to,

SIR,

your real honourer, and moſt
affectionate humbleſt ſervant,
PETER DU MOULIN.

IN all humility I give here my ſervice to my honourable lady *Ranelagh*.

SIR, *Canterbury, Feb.* 23, 1673-4.

I HAD given order, that a dozen of my books ſhould be ſent to my ſiſter *Claver* for her to diſtribute; and that you ſhould be the firſt ſerved. But I hear, that my ſtationer hath deceived my expectation. What orders I have renewed ſince, I forbear to tell you. But I would be glad to know, whether it was ſent to you, and likewiſe if my honourable lady *Ranelagh* was preſented with one. How it was licenſed, and no imprimatur to it, is a myſtery, which is yet unknown to me. In this happy turning of public buſineſſes, I conceive, that the tranſlation of the grievances of the *French* proteſtants might find a way to the preſs. It is yours, as done by your order, and you may do with it according to your wiſdom. We have ſeen here an amazing account of the danger of the *Iriſh* proteſtants; yet I hope, that the preſent poſture of the *Engliſh* affairs ſecureth them from a maſſacre, which doubtleſsly had been executed, if the late deſign of the papiſts of *England* had had the intended ſucceſs. Bleſſed be the great keeper of his *Iſrael*, who never ſlumbereth nor ſleepeth. To that loving keeper I commend you with my hearty prayers, and my honourable lady *Ranelagh*, to whom I give my humbleſt ſervice, and reſt,

SIR,

your moſt real honourer,
and moſt humble ſervant,
P. DU MOULIN.

YOUR dear nephews are well, and give their humble ſervice to you, my wife does the ſame.

To my honourable lady *Ranelagh*, our dear gallants and my wife give their humbleſt ſervice.

Mr. WINTHROP *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *Boſton* in *New England, Oct.* 27, 1670.

THE good contentment I had conceived at the arrival of Mr. *John Pell*, in hopes to have received by him the deſired intelligence of your continued health, when he delivered me your letter of *June* 21 laſt, was ſoon blaſted by his ſad report of your ſickneſs, and am thereupon neceſſarily under clouds of diſconſolate thoughts, until I have the good tidings of your happy recovery. Mr. *Pell* had a good opportunity, at his arrival at *Boſton*, for the eaſier expedition of his buſineſs, meeting a veſſel of *Fairfield*, the place where his uncle had lived; and in that veſſel was one Mr. *John Bankes*, who was appointed one of the executors in truſt by his uncle Mr. *Thomas Pell* deceaſed; and in the ſame veſſel, together with Mr. *Bankes*, had (that very day of his arrival at this town) paſſage hence towards the place of his inheritance, and had

had my letters with him (I being then occaſionally at this town) to the magiſtrates and others there, for their reſpect and aſſiſtance to him, and their ordering his ſpeedy and quiet poſſeſſion of that, which was his right; and wrote to ſeveral others of the magiſtrates of that colony, by the firſt opportunity over land, for their like favourable aſſiſtance in his concerns, as occaſion might be. Concerning the *Indian* work, I ſuppoſe there is full information, and good ſatisfaction from the commiſſioners of the colonies, thoſe of them, who met at *Boſton* this month, three or four of them; I could not be with them this laſt meeting, and therefore had not ſo full notice of the preſent ſtate of thoſe matters; but I ſpoke with Mr. *Eliott*, and ſome others, concerned in that work, and am ſatisfied of an hopeful progreſs therein. I ſhall now make bold to acquaint your honour with a ſtrange thing, which happened the beginning of this laſt ſummer at *Watertown*, a place of the *Maſſachuſet* colony, about ſix miles from this *Boſton* in *New England*, and is very certain. There is a large pond of freſh water at that place, in which were ſeveral ſorts of fiſh; and multitudes of thoſe fiſh of all the divers kinds, which were in that pond, ſuddenly died; there were pike, roach, perch, and other ſorts, with eels alſo, beſides very many of another kind, which come out of the ſea in the ſpring thither to ſpawn; there were very many of all of them found dead round about that water, as near the ſhore as they could come; the water growing ſhallower by degrees from the depth of the pond to the ſhore, and the dead fiſh lying very thick in that ſhoal water in the whole circumference thereof, which was great. There be many difficulties, in the conſideration about this, as to any natural cauſe of it. The pond is large (ſome miles about) and of great depth, and a brook running out of it, ſo as it cannot be likely, that the water ſhould be tainted by the multitude of fiſh. I went to the place to ſee it, but it was above a month after the firſt notice of it; there were there divers yet whole, but the bones of many other, and pieces; it was towards evening, and I had not time to view much of it. There were ſome *Indians* then there; I ſpoke to ſome of them; they had not ſeen (they ſaid) the like there, or in other waters, though there were ſome very old amongſt them; but their apprehenſions were, it might be by the lightning, there having been at that very time, and at that place, great thunder and lightning. I am upon further enquiry about it, and of what particulars have been taken notice of as moſt remarkable; and if any come to my knowledge worthy your notice, may be tranſmitted by ſome other opportunity; and ſhall be bold humbly to crave your judicious thoughts of this thing, whether any natural cauſe can be known; and whether any memory of this age, or hiſtory of former of the like in any lakes in *Ireland*, or ponds, or lakes in other parts of the world, hath obſerved apparent cauſes, or whether only to be looked upon as ſupernatural. Your judgment at your next convenient time will greatly add to the many deep obligations, wherein I am engaged ever to be in great reality,

Honourable Sir, your moſt humble ſervant,

JOHN WINTHROP.

Letters from Sir PAUL RYCAUT *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Smyrna, July* 2, 1671.

THE fair opportunity that I have by the bearer hereof, Mr. *Smith*, to kiſs your hands, induces me to put you in remembrance, that you have a ſervant here, who would rejoice and be proud of nothing more than receiving your commands. And though, Sir, my fortune was never ſo favourable, as to beſtow upon me a felicity ſo ineſtimable, as the enjoyment of converſation with ſo excellent a perſon as yourſelf;

yourſelf; yet having read your ſoul in your books, I can boldly ſay, that I have often diſcourſed with you at *Smyrna*, and by your helps to contemplation I have entertained dialogues with you, and in fine am concluded under an irreſiſtable principle of loving your virtues, and admiring your knowledge.

I WISH, that theſe addreſſes were accompanied with ſome ſubſtantial account of affairs here, or philoſophical diſcoveries of ſomething curious, and worthy your obſervation: but, Sir, you may be pleaſed to conſider, that I live in *Turky*, and am ſo employed in directing trade and merchandize, and other petty matters annexed to the government of this conſulate, that I am almoſt become a ſtranger to more ingenuous and liberal arts. Howſoever, when I have time and leiſure, I adventure to blot ſome ſheets of paper (as Mr. *Smith* will inform you) with matters of theſe countries, relating to the Chriſtian churches, and to the annals of the *Ottoman* ſucceſſes in theſe latter years. Whether they may be worth the knowledge or notice of the world, I cannot tell, at leaſt I have this ſatisfaction, that they have been my paſtime in my hours of leiſure, and recreated my mind, when my thoughts have been overcharged with leſs pleaſing conſiderations: but, Sir, no employment can be ſo delightful to me as to be buſied in your commands, nor can I ever be ſatisfied, whilſt I am idle and uſeleſs in your ſervice, who am,

SIR, your moſt humble ſervant,

PAUL RYCAUT.

SIR, *Dublin Caſtle, March* 3, 1685-6.

YOU might juſtly accuſe me of too long a neglect in not writing to you, conſidering the great concernments you have in this kingdom, and the great intereſt and power your commands have over me. The croud of buſineſs, which preſſed me at my firſt arrival here, gave me but little leiſure to attend to an intercourſe of letters with my friends in *England*; and I was then ſo much a ſtranger to all the affairs of this country, that I was afraid to give any account of matters here, leſt I ſhould have miſtaken in my firſt rudiments.

I AM now become a little better acquainted with perſons, and the ſtate of affairs in this kingdom; ſo that matters, which now come to appear before me, ſeem leſs ſtrange and difficult than at firſt. The account you gave me of the ſtate of this country one day at a private conference together, I have often remembered, and compared with the diſpoſition of this country, and find it very agreeable, and correſponding in all particulars. Nothing hath had a greater influence on the peace of this kingdom, than the arrival of this lord lieutenant, who having declared in council, the ſame hour he received the ſword, that his majeſty reſolved to maintain the act of ſettlement, the minds of thoſe preſent were greatly exalted, and the good news was quickly diſperſed over this whole city, with general ſatisfaction. I am very well aſſured, that never any governor was more welcome here, than this lord lieutenant, who, by his even carriage towards all people, hath ſtrangely gained upon the affections of all parties. Certainly never any man was ever more aſſiduous in buſineſs, nor more indefatigable than he; ſo that I am very well aſſured, that this kingdom and people will be extremely happy and flouriſhing, if his induſtry and methods be not ſtopped, and ſubverted by other meaſures from *England*. I have ſometimes the opportunity to diſcourſe with my lord *Burlington*'s agent, touching his lordſhip's affairs, and have alſo received the honour of two letters from my lord's own hand. I could wiſh I were capable to render his lordſhip that ſervice, which might at his arrival here in *May* next (which he gives us hopes to expect) make me worthy of his lordſhip's favours.

I SHALL

I SHALL ſhortly give you ſome particulars of what we tranſact at our royal ſociety here. I have but once been preſent with them, as yet, being commonly obſtructed by buſineſs; but ſhortly I ſhall endeavour to accommodate my buſineſs in ſuch manner, as that I may more frequently afford them my company. Sir, I deſire you to preſent my moſt humble ſervice to my lord *Burlington*, and be pleaſed to command me in any thing, wherein I may be uſeful to you, who am

Your moſt faithful, and
moſt humble ſervant,
PAUL RYCAUT.

SIR, *Hamburgh, Auguſt* 3, 1691.

JUST now I received the favour of your letter, with the much eſteemed preſent of a book (called the Chriſtian Virtuoſo) delivered to me by the hands of Mr. *Chamberlaine*. The letter bearing date of the 13th of *February* laſt, was not (as I thought) to be longer laid aſide, or my anſwer thereunto, or my thanks for the book, and your obliging enquiries after my condition and health, to be one moment deferred; for I was impatient of doing both, and eſpecially to let you know, that my returns would have been much ſooner, had your letter come in due time; yet I am ſure it could never come too late, to make me ſenſible of the favour, nor unacceptable by the hands of that worthy gentleman, who was the bearer of it.

I NEED not enquire, Sir, what you are doing, ſince you give ſuch frequent demonſtrations and proofs of your labours, which have enriched and cultivated the minds of mankind with philoſophy and religion. I cannot ſay, that I have as yet read your laſt book, it not being above two hours ſince it came to my hands; but I have delighted myſelf in reading the preface, and in my thoughts on the title, which confirms unto me the truth of that ſaying, that a little philoſophy may make a man an Atheiſt, but a great deal will advance him to the ſtate of a Chriſtian. So that I muſt needs ſay, that you have been very happy in pitching upon ſuch a ſubject.

ABOUT ſix or ſeven months ago I wrote to you, and incloſed the letter in my packet to *Whitehall*, which I hope you received. I then, as I remember, told you, that I employed my vacant hours in writing the hiſtory of the laſt wars and troubles in *Hungary*; in which I have lately received great helps by papers and manuſcripts, ſent me from *Vienna* and *Tranſilvania*, by my lord *Paget*, and other friends at *Vienna*.

THIS work ſerves to keep me from idleneſs, and to fill up my leiſure hours, I mean, as many as I can ſpare from expected and neceſſary correſpondences. In the mean time (I praiſe God) I enjoy a perfect health, in this air, which I eſteem very good and dry, and very agreeable to my natural conſtitution of body: I hope you do the like at *London*, of which the beſt aſſurances I can have, are from your writings, which are the beſt evidences, in my opinion, of health; for great ſtrength of reaſoning, or exalted fancy, can never proceed from a languiſhing body. It would be a great ſatisfaction to me, to hear ſometimes from you, both as to your health, and recovery of your eſtate in *Ireland*, which I am glad to hear is almoſt totally reduced. I ſhould alſo rejoice to hear of my lord *Burlington*, and the welfare of all your honourable family; and to yourſelf I am full of warm wiſhes for your health, proſperity, and long life, being, with all reality,

Honoured Sir,
your moſt obliged, and moſt humble ſervant,
PAUL RYCAUT.

Letters

Letters from Dr. BERNARD *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Right Honourable,

HAVING deferred my journey to *London*, till it pleaſe God to give me another year of life, I account myſelf obliged to permit this humble acknowledgment of the laſt book, and the former favours you have conferred on me, beſeeching the Beſt to bleſs you with the mercies of both worlds, and reward you for the various good you have done in this.

IF any gentleman, amongſt the many that covet to wait upon you, have a deſire to advance the ſtudy of the oriental languages, which open to us the divine word, the treaſure, that Mr. *Huntingdon* lately brought from the Eaſt, amounting to four hundred mighty volumes, and more, in *Hebrew*, *Syriac*, and *Arabic*, deſerves well the purchaſe, that it will come at, namely, the very coſt of them upon the places in the *Levant*, being as ſo many pounds ſterling for the ſaid number of manuſcripts, moſt of them in form very large.

THEY are as yet entire, but I fear, unleſs a patron interpoſe, will ſoon be parted, and thereby loſe a great deal of their uſe and profit, which ariſeth from their conjunction, as happens likewiſe to all good things. I commend my humble ſervice to my honoured predeceſſor, the lord biſhop of *Sarum*, who will ſupply the mathematic ſtudy with books to the value of one hundred pounds; and alſo to Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, whoſe benefaction in the like kind we already uſe, as far as may be, by the leave of *Joſephus*, and the meanneſs of,

Right honourable,
your moſt obliged, and
moſt humble ſervant,
E. BERNARD.

I HEARTILY congratulate the honours lately conferred on your noble family.

Honourable and my very good Friend, *May* 13, 1673.

I MAKE bold to ſend you a ſpecimen of the *Arabic* proverbs, which Mr. *Scott*, bookſeller, deſired to be made, in order to print the whole, if one hundred copies could be taken off by our friends here (Dr. *Caſtell* promiſing for a like number at *Cambridge*.) In the edition I would, if it be agreeable to the mind of the ingenious, that a ſmart *Latin* verſion be put to the *Arabic* proverbs, and then a verbal for the uſe of the ſtudents in that ample language.

MY hours ſpared from mathematics, and my good friends, I chiefly deſign upon the *Pſalms*, both becauſe of the frequent and deſerved uſe of that holy book, and alſo the remains of ancient verſions and commentaries thereon. When I have finiſhed the firſt and ſecond pſalms, I ſhall preſent you with a ſpecimen thereof, which will better explain my intention than I can do at preſent. To this end, there is an *Arabic* manuſcript in the library of our ſociety at *Arundel* houſe, which hath theſe two things, for which I deſire to borrow it, upon the ſecurity of my honoured collegue, *viz.* a good preface, and the *Coptic* interlaced, of which I am a mean ſtudent, by the example and encouragement of Dr. *Marſhall*, the worthy rector of *Lincoln College*. Now I moſt heartily condole with you, and all pious and ingenious men, the loſs of my dear friend and brother Mr. *Smith*, of *Queen's College*, who was taken away from preferment, as it was approaching him, and is now infinitely more happy. I pray for your health, which is of greateſt moment to all ſolid learning, and its proſperity.

I verily believe, that Dr. *Voſſius* will deſerve better preferment from our church, than what he now commences in our habits. Mr. *Frampton* will precede doctor this act, and will (God willing) preach the act ſermon here.

THE reſt of this affair Dr. *Wallis* will better acquaint you with; only I muſt acknowledge, by my own hand, as well as by his aſſurances, that I am

Your moſt humble, and moſt obliged ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

Honourable SIR, *December* 30, 1673.

I AM obliged to you for many favours this decayed year, for thoſe good books, which no ſickneſs could hinder the public of, for the favour of your laſt letter, and particularly for your good character of Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, who we wiſh our burgeſs. The voice of the univerſity is not yet certain, becauſe divers perſons ſuſpend till the writ comes down. I hope well on my patron's ſide, and my little credit with ſome friends is now exerciſed.

HONOURABLE Sir, I beſeech God Almighty to give you a happy new-year, good health, and all ſpiritual comfort, and am

Your very obliged, and moſt humble ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

I WISH proſperity to the Royal Society, and deſire to ſerve them.

Honourable, *Oxon*, *May* 1, 1680.

HAVING ſome months experience of this learned *Breman*, and beſides his ſkill in phyſic, admiring his ſingular knowledge in our tongue, I could not but gratify his ambition of waiting upon you, or rather offer this occaſion for your commands into *France*, whither this gentleman is going. The affairs of this place I concede to my good collegue, to relate to you in preſence, and only claim the honour of profeſſing myſelf

Your much obliged,
moſt humble, and moſt obedient ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

IN the antiquities I am arrived to *Heliopolis*, where the patriarch ſaluted his beloved *Joſeph*. The *Gallican* copies would eaſe my taſk, and not increaſe, but ſhorten the various lections.

Honourable, *Oxon*, *Oct.* 18, *hora vix ſexta*, 1680.

THE great advantage I have received in the converſation of Dr. *Hanſen*, both from his own virtue and ſpirit, and alſo his large intelligence with the more curious and learned of this age, makes me bold to recommend him to your renewed favour and colloquy; yet with the hopes and reſerve of his ſpeedy return with his conduct the excellent count *Coningſmark*, unto this ſeat again, to be farther loved and admired. The health alſo of Dr. *Pocock* and Dr. *Wallis*, your dutiful friends, now buſied or in the difficulties of the holy prophets, or in the ill tranſcribed harmonicks of *Ptolemy*, I chuſe to mention in this time of epidemical malady, together with the perpetual duty and obligation of,

Honourable Sir,
your moſt obedient, and moſt humble,

E. BERNARD.

Right

Right Honourable, *Oxon, January* 15, 1680.

I SEND, with the wiſhes of a good year, my humble gratitude for your aerial noctiluca, which excels other phoſphori, as the phoſphorus of heaven doth other ſtars, or as your writings outſhine the philoſophies of this age, how various, how curious ſoever.

I HUMBLY recommend to your influence the retrieving of the moſt ancient *Greek* copy of *Geneſis*, borrowed by the late lord *Stafford*, but indeed a juſt part of the library of Sir *John Cotton*. *Lambecius* ſhews us a like exemplar, in his deſcription of the *Cæſarian* library.

LASTLY, I congratulate the honour and advantage done the Society, in your taking the care and preſidence over it, which adds another obligation to the ready ſervice of

Your moſt humble, and moſt bounden ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

Honourable and moſt worthy, *Oxon, February* 24, 1683-4.

I RENDER you my humbleſt thanks for your treatiſe of that ſtream, by which we all live, and by whoſe inundation not a few periſh.

THIS hard winter hath, and it is its beſt effect, approved another book, you long ſince obliged the ingenious by, of the nature and power of cold, which hath been little underſtood, either by the ancient or modern philoſophers. Pray grant me your good wiſhes, that, with the ſpring, my vigour and intention may return for ſacred and human ſcience, by the grace of the Omniſcient. Wherein, or to what elſe my meanneſs may apply, you may juſtly and eaſily command the obſervance of,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged, and affectionate ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

Right Honourable, *Oxon, Sept.* 17, 1684.

THIS gentleman, of great and unuſual learning, is conſcious of the general eſteem and gratitude I bear you: and this letter renders particular thanks for the treatiſe of poroſity, which you lately honoured me with; indeed ſo much the more welcome to my mind, in regard of my conſent with *Hippocrates*, the ancienteſt and beſt profeſſor of the ſalutary art, concerning the perviouſneſs of our bodies, *cribra planè carnea*, to all good or bad afflations of air: which one element doth more to the temperatures and conditions and ſpirit of animals, than all the reſt, not to add your medicine itſelf. For this very rarely and with a circuit corrects the fault and bane of an untoward atmoſphere.

I HAVE adventured to offer you a tranſaction, not for the worth of ought therein contained, as that I might not be wholly empty.

LASTLY, I recommend to you the hiſtory of Sir *Otho Helvig*, from the mouth of this worthy ſcholar; who deſires, that neither his own prince, nor your honour, may ſuffer by the pretences and falſe glories of that knight.

Now I pray for your long and peaceful life, and beg your bleſſing upon your obliged in this univerſity, and particularly,

Right honourable and devout,

upon your moſt obedient, and affectionate ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

Honoured SIR, *Oxon, Aug.* 1, 1689.

I HUMBLY entreat you to procure amongſt the *Eaſt-India* merchants a complete alphabet of the *Brahmins* or *Hanſcretan* writing, and alſo of the *Malabar*; which will be a great obligation to

Your humble ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

Alphabetum Honſcretanum, aut Brahminicum.

a
b
c
d
e
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m
n
o
p
q
r
s
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u
x
y
z

The numeral Figures.

1
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3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Alphabetum Malabaricum.

a
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I FEAR

I FEAR this writing is erroneous, as well as imperfect; but it is all the printed books will give us.

Honoured and beloved, *Oxon, Feb.* 1, 1690-1.

AS you have done a good and dutiful ſervice to the Author of all, in transferring the attributes of nature, which ethniciſm and ignorance long miſplaced, unto the right and omnipotent cauſe, ſo you perſiſt in honouring the Creator, by carrying all curious and generous minds through the regions of his works, unto the throne of his glory, mercy, and perfections. This is certainly the moſt worthy epilogue and corollary of all the years of your philoſophical contemplations; and adminiſters to me and to thouſands more a freſh and noble argument of the pure condition of our reaſon; that a mind for many and many years converſing with all the varieties of the material world, and trying all the forms, motions, and changes of ſublunary bodies to ſundry advantages of human life, ſhould, as unſatisfied and not pure enough, yet pierce farther unto what is more clear and refined, even than number and analogy, unto the eternal, the almighty, and adorable Spirit, to whoſe grace and illumination you are heartily recommended this recent year, by,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt obliged ſervant,

E. BERNARD.

WHATEVER is againſt reaſon, that is, againſt all poſſible means of arguing and referring, is abſurd and unworthy religion: and what is above reaſon, that is, above and beſides all human traditions, doctrines, writings, and diſcourſes, and the laſt concluſions from theſe, is not to be received, unleſs upon a principle moſt reaſonable and ready, even as our ſight, that is undeniable witneſs; and ſuch is the divine ſcripture, for which God be ever bleſſed. But alas! it is the pride and pazzia of theiſts and ſchoolmen, to fancy that to be above and againſt the right reaſon of mankind, which is above or againſt their ſingle and unimproved intellects.

Letter from Sir JOHN FINCH *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Florence, Feb.* 6, 1667-8. N. S.

I AM glad of any errand to convey my reſpects to you, which are ſo great to your perſon upon ſo many ſcores, that I had rather leave you to gueſs at them by what they ought to be, than by endeavouring to repreſent them to let you ſee they fall ſhort of what my obligations ſhould render. Sir, I hear from others, how public a debtor you have made me to your goodneſs; for the wars have not ſuffered me to be ſo happy, as to ſee what you bleſſed this age withal ſince I left *England*: but alas! Sir, a perſon of your value and eſteem (with whatſoever in this world can make a judgment) has diſpenſed a character ſo much in my favour, that nothing of private can ever acquit the obligation, nor nothing of public can ever make good to the world that belief of me you have raiſed. I confeſs, Sir, having made your great abilities much of my diſcourſe, I have gained ſome reputation abroad of judging aright; and I muſt aſſure you, Sir, that the late pope was very high in your commendations. What the princes of *Italy* think of your perſon, I need not atteſt, ſince cardinal *Leopoldo* declares their ſenſe in ſo frequent admiration of your diſcoveries; and I will aſſure you, Sir, the cardinal gave me but two of his books for *England*; one whereof was for his majeſty, and the other for yourſelf, which he deſired me to convey

vey with expreſſions of ſo much eſteem, that I will leave you to gueſs at the ſincerity of them, by what he owns to the world in print. And now, Sir, I have declared my meſſage, I ſhall for the future beg your audience; and when you are more at leiſure, I ſhall give you the trouble of ſomething to entertain your curioſity at leaſt, by an account of what paſſes in theſe parts; but at preſent time will only permit me to make the promiſe, which I ſhall perform by the firſt occaſion; and with all the devotion the heighth of reſpect can dictate, ever remain,

SIR,

your moſt humble, and
moſt obedient ſervant,
JOHN FINCH.

DR. *Baines* deſires me to preſent you with his moſt humble ſervice.

MY brother will give the cardinal's book he ſent, to whom you ſhall order to receive it.

Letters from the earl of WINCHELSEA *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Eaſtwell, Sept.* 10, 1675.

I HAVE thought the time very long ſince I had the honour to have waited upon you; my occaſions keeping me here in the country muſt be my excuſe. Intereſt, which ſways ſo much in prince's courts, muſt have weight in the balance alſo with thoſe, that live the moſt remote.

MONSIEUR *de Son* hath made me a moſt excellent engine, that forceth water up to this houſe one hundred feet high, in great quantity, and works without any jarring, or ſhaking, and yet with great force and conſtancy. A deſign of which my ſon *Heneage* will ſend you.

ONE of my ſons I have ſent for *Smyrna* to conſul *Rycaut*, to be bred up for merchandize or navigation. My ſon *Heneage* is to go abroad with me, for I intend with my wife, and a ſmall retinue, for to go into *France* next month. I have a great deal of reaſon to prize my health, which is impaired in this cold climate, and I go chiefly to recover it. I have ſerved this king and his father ever ſince the treaty in the *Iſle of Wight*, and had ſooner, but that I was too young. It is now high time to think of myſelf and my children; for it is too much to ſuffer twice, once for hating *Cromwell*, *&c.* and now to be forgot.

I SHALL chooſe one of the beſt airs I can for to live in, and a climate between 42 and 40; one place for the winter, which is warm, and another for the ſummer, which is cool; ſome parts of *France*, or *Italy*, or *Spain*. My intentions are not to ſtay abroad above three years, and in that time I ſhall have my ſon *Heneage* well inſtructed in thoſe three languages, and have ſeen enough. I have cauſe to look well after this ſon, for I loſt my eldeſt firſt in his match, whilſt I ſerved the king in *Turkey*, and at laſt in the wars with the *Dutch*.

WHEN I ſhall be abroad, if I can ſerve you in any information, or curioſity, you will oblige me in commanding me. I have no intention by theſe lines to put you to the trouble of an anſwer, for I reſolve to wait on you as ſoon as I go to *London*, which will be ſome time this month. In the mean time I wiſh you all happineſs, that am

Your moſt humble ſervant,
WINCHELSEA.

SIR,

SIR, *Eaſtwell, Sept.* 26, 1683.

I RECEIVED the honour of yours dated the 20th inſtant, and am extremely obliged to you for your care of my health. I wiſh it were well enough to do you any ſervice, whereby I might expreſs, how much I value your friendſhip, and how gratefully I receive your love and kindneſs in ſuch repeated inſtances.

I THANK God, in many reſpects my health is of late amended, upon which account I have hitherto delayed my intended journey, in hopes it might have been wholly repaired here; but the ſcurvy in my mouth is ſo inveterate, that I muſt be forced to remove out of *England*, except I would hazard all my teeth, one of them being already ſo looſe, that I deſpair of ſaving it by any means. I deſign to take my journey about three weeks hence, or a month at the fartheſt; and ſtaying but two or three days in *Paris*, to haſten directly to the moſt ſouthern parts of *France*, and perhaps (if I make ſuch diſpatch as to paſs the *Alps* before the 10th of *November*) I may winter at *Piſa*, which is accounted by the duke of *Florence* to be a very good air at that time of year; but as to this particular, I beg the favour of your advice.

I DO not know, how matters ſtand between *Spain* and *England*, but in my own eſteem, I prefer *Barcelona* to any other place, unleſs I would go ſo far as *Naples*; but neither muſt be thought of, unleſs I had greater aſſurance of civility from the *Spaniards*, than at this juncture I can propoſe.

WHEREVER I am, I beg the honour of your correſpondence with me by letters: yours may be left with conſul *Rycaut*, to whom likewiſe I ſhall direct mine for you: and if I can do you any ſervice in my travels, you ſhall find me very willing and ready to undertake it.

AS to *Muntingius*, what I deſign is for the public good; I have ſent for the book, and before the extract is publiſhed, I ſhall deſire your approbation.

IF I can make any enquiries abroad, which may be uſeful to you, I intreat you would be pleaſed to ſend me inſtructions in writing; and wherever I come, I will confer with the moſt learned, and beſt experienced in each particular.

BEING indiſpoſed myſelf, I have taken the liberty of an amanuenſis, and hope you will uſe the ſame freedom with me upon any occaſion. I am

Your moſt humble, and
moſt obliged ſervant,
WINCHELSEA.

IF you can direct me where to buy any of that water, which you were formerly pleaſed to recommend for my teeth, I ſhall take it as a great favour.

Letters from Dr. SALL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Chriſt-Church in Oxford, Dec.* 17, 1678.

I HAVE the honour of yours of the 12th current, and do humbly thank you for your kind remembrance of me, and for helping me to bleſs God for his good providence over me, in leading me to this religious retirement, ſo convenient and neceſſary for me in this conjuncture. I endeavour to make the beſt uſe I can of what time and ſtrength God ſends me, for his ſervice and the common good. My preſent work, commended to me by our chief prelates, is, to reviſe my courſe of philoſophy, controverſial and moral, and the fundamental tracts of practical theology, which in my better age and forces I laboured for my public lectures, but much more for the future profit of my countrymen; my purpoſe being to deliver to them the ſyſtem of notions,

tions belonging to those faculties, approved by the more creditable authors of this age, in a more clear and brief method, than others going among us, avoiding both extremities of a barren summary, without reasoning my assertions, and of a confused prolix excursion upon unnecessary matters; as also excluding positions opposite to true orthodox doctrine, and suggesting foreign errors, which is now my special study to secure. This much in due obedience to your request for letting you know my present tax.

AND whereas you are pleased to give me leave to deliver my opinion touching your design of reprinting the new testament in *Irish*, and how it may conduce to the conversion of those miserably deluded souls; I bless God for inspiring to you so holy a zeal, and to those worthies, that join with you therein. And I doubt not but it may conduce highly to the glory of God, good of those souls, and credit of our government, if the other prelates and pastors of *Ireland* did use such endeavours as the good archbishop of *Cashell* does, by communing with the natives, and winning them to hear and read the word of God, and specially if in the college there were a course taken for obliging or inticing such as expect to have * * * * * to read and declare the holy scriptures in *Irish*, specially the new testament, the historical and proverbial books of the old, together with the old psalms; of want of which I saw good men in both kingdoms give grievous complaints: for me, I am more apt to lament than remedy it. Persons of your rank and authority, and of your honourable relations, may be more proportionable to effect the remedy; and I would offer my obediential concurrence to the utmost of my power.

I DO not remember to have seen more of the scriptures printed in *Irish*, but the psalms with our common-prayer book in handsome folios for quire, of which I discovered a set to the archbishop of *Cashell*, and his grace appointed a reading of them in his cathedral. Having lived so long abroad, I may not be magisterial in the *Irish* tongue, though by the help of reading I kept such stock of it, as enabled me to preach. But this much in general I shall insinuate, that if I were fit to be the translator, of two ends, men may aim at in such a work, the one, of getting the credit of skill in the primitive ancient *Irish*, the other, of benefitting common readers by expressions now in use, I would chuse the latter. And I do take it to be as unbecoming a serious and well meaning undertaker of such a work to use obsolete antiquated words, alien from common perception, as may be in a preacher at *Christ-Church* in *Oxford* or *Dublin*, to speak now the language of our good ancestors, the *Saxons*, in time of king *Edward the Confessor*, to get the credit of pure *English*; the purpose of nature, by speaking, is, to pass the conception of the speaker to the hearer; to use words unsuitable to this purpose, is to trespass against nature. Let not the grave interpreter cast off common words, while proper, for derived from *English*, *Latin*, or other civil languages. In a serious debate upon this subject, with eminent speakers of *Irish*, I made evident to themselves, that they may not speak much properly in matters relating to philosophy or divinity, by meer *Irish* words, without recourse to derivatives. For example, they could not shew me one *Irish* word for *blasphemia*, which themselves would not laugh at, compared with the meaning of that word in schools, *&c.*

I LEAVE to your own better judgment to consider, whether it may be convenient to face the *Latin* or the *English* with the *Irish*, in two columns of the same page, and the *Irish* to be put in *Italic* character (as was done in a catechism I saw by *Stapleton* a *Romanist*) which may be a means of learning the *Irish* by *Latin* or *English*, for those of the college and others. The change of characters is but the same done by our ancestors of the *Saxon* character (which is the same with the *Irish*) to that brought in by their conquerors and civiler times: well may the *Irish* bear the like. It were much

much to be wiſhed, that, by the help of judicious men, the like reformation of the *Iriſh* orthography ſhould be uſed, as is now going in *Engliſh* and *French*, cutting off letters, that are not expreſſed in the prolation; the purpoſe of writing being to repreſent exactly the ſpeaking.

You enquire, which is the *Iriſh* word for a quail? If I have not forgot, it is * * * * * *giarraguirt*, which (alluding to the common haunt of thoſe birds) ſignifies a cornfield-cutter. For a chariot, the ordinary word is * * * * *coſtik*, the ſame that is for a coach. And having ſaid this much, in anſwer to your demand, I humbly deſire my beſt and very affectionate reſpects be preſented to my honourable lady *Ranelagh*, my lord and my lady *Burlington*, my lord and my lady *Clifford*, and all the illuſtrious family, whoſe health and happineſs is the very earneſt prayer of

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble

and moſt obliged ſervant,

ANDR. SALL.

Honoured SIR, *Chriſt-Church, Oxon, April* 5, 1679.

HAVING given account to my lord archbiſhop of *Caſhell* of the pious intention you were pleaſed to impart to me of reprinting the *Iriſh* teſtament, and deſired his grace to let me underſtand what other parts of the bible he knew printed, or tranſlated to *Iriſh* for printing, he gave me the notice thereof, which I ſend here incloſed (being a piece of his laſt letter to me) for your further ſatisfaction.

I PRAY be pleaſed to preſent my beſt reſpects to my very honourable and good lady *Ranelagh*, with my moſt humble and hearty thanks for her ladyſhip's pious and noble care in ſoliciting my concerns there. I hope ſo honourable a mediation will avail me, however the preſent concurrence of weighty cares may cauſe a delay. I do not abate in my labours for the public good for all the want of help I have; for I did not begin, neither (by God's help) will I proceed for any worldly inducement.

IF my lord *Burlington* be there, I beſeech you to preſent my moſt affectionate reſpects to his lordſhip, and to all the honourable family. I continue praying heartily for God's bleſſing upon you all, and am,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt affectionate,

and moſt obliged ſervant,

ANDR. SALL.

Honourable SIR, *Chriſt-Church, Oxford, June* 29, 1679.

THIS is to let you know, that if thoſe noblemen, who have hindered my returning to *Ireland*, promiſing to procure me a competent living here, be pleaſed to continue that good will for me, now an opportunity appears for executing it, whereas the oldeſt of the canons here Dr. *Lockie*, above eighty years of age, is fallen ſick, and, as I hear, without appearance of recovery; his place, or another like it here, is the thing moſt convenient that could be for me, to render me ſerviceable to our church and ſchools, and which the biſhop of *Wincheſter* and other worthy men did wiſh for me from the beginning. I beſeech your honour to continue your noble zeal for me, in propoſing the caſe to my lord chancellor, and to the biſhop of *London*, by my good lord *Burlington*, or yourſelf; whereby I hope their lordſhips will be pleaſed to procure for me

that ſettlement and conveniency for ſerving our church, which I am ſo long time expecting.

MY courſe of ethics is half printed, and promiſed to be finiſhed next month. My whole courſe of philoſophy is ready to follow it. That and more, by the help of God, I ſhall be the better able to perform for the public good, if this my requeſt be granted. I deſire my moſt humble and affectionate reſpects be preſented to my honourable lord and lady of *Burlington*, to my lady *Ranelagh*, my lord *Clifford*, and all your illuſtrious family, whoſe happineſs *in utroque homine* I heartily wiſh and pray for,

Honourable Sir,
your moſt humble, and
moſt affectionate ſervant,
ANDR. SALL.

Honourable SIR, *Dublin, May* 20, 1680.

LAST week I gave account to my good lady *Ranelagh* of my arrival here, and my going to *Navan*, and what diſpoſition I ſaw there towards the accompliſhing of her good ladyſhip's godly intention for the inſtruction of her children. Now I am to give yourſelf account of my endeavours to concur with your moſt noble and holy zeal of bringing the word of God to the hands, and hearing of this moſt miſerably blinded people. I conferred with my lord lieutenant, my lord biſhop of *Meath*, and with the provoſt of the college upon the ſubject, and I found all three very willing to countenance and further the matter. I doubt not to find the ſame inclination in my lord primate and other worthy perſons. All do accordingly honour and commend your piety in reprinting the *Iriſh* teſtament, and do rejoice at the notice I gave them of the forwardneſs that work is in already by your means. I find both my lord biſhop of *Meath* and the provoſt willing to contrive the reading of it, and of *Iriſh* prayers in the college. I hope God will raiſe more of good ſpirits to advance this work for the good of poor ſouls. I pray be pleaſed to let me know, how forward that buſineſs is now in print, and deſire Mr. *Rely* to give me a large and minute account of the matter, and what courſe he took to continue the work he was on, of altering ſome words improper and exotick of the copy, which I would wiſh may have the inſpection of ſome judicious and learned proteſtant, and without that to let the words go as they be in the copy. I pray ſend his letter incloſed to me in your own, and ſend it directed to Mr. *Fletcher*, or to Mr. *Foley*, fellow of *Trinity-college*, to be furthered after me to *Caſhell*, whither I do intend to ſet forth from hence within three days, God willing: there and elſewhere preaching in *Iriſh*, I will endeavour to prepare the way for the reading of your *Iriſh* teſtament. I pray let me know, whether you may think fit to truſt me with the help of other better judgments here to compile the preface to this edition, and what things you may think fit to add in it, to what I judge neceſſary to expreſs of the authors and advancers of that work both now and in the firſt edition.

I WOULD alſo deſire you to ſend to my lord biſhop of *Meath*, or to myſelf, a copy of the project for ſubſcriptions uſed at the printing of the *Welſh* bible, to be a pattern to us, both in this occaſion, and others, which I hope may happen of printing more of that kind. Now commending you and your noble endeavour to God's protection and guidance, I reſt,

Honoured Sir,
your ever affectionate ſervant,
ANDR. SALL.

Honoured

Honoured and dear SIR, *Caſhell, Oct.* 16, 1680.

I RECEIVED by this poſt yours dateleſs, but written in *Auguſt* (as I find by the contents of it) to my great joy for knowing of your health and welfare, being not a little troubled in not having heard from you ſince my coming out of *England*, of which I have from you now the reaſon to my full ſatisfaction. I hear nothing yet from Mr. *Rely*, but am extreme glad for what you are pleaſed to tell me of the forwardneſs of that work about printing the teſtament, which I conſider not to be ſmall for the nature of the work. Since my laſt to you I ſpent my time preaching and catechiſing in *Engliſh* and *Iriſh* every *Sunday* in this city, and in the country near it, when God was pleaſed to viſit me with a dangerous ſickneſs of the country diſeaſe, ſo called here, by looſeneſs and vomit. I was given for dead. But God was pleaſed to reſtore me to my former meaſure of health. May it be for his honour and glory. I am nothing forgetful of your pious deſire, and my lady *Ranelagh*'s, touching a catechiſm to be made in *Iriſh*; and diſcourſing on the matter with my lord primate, his grace was very earneſt with me to make uſe of that in the common-prayer book, as more fit for the capacity and memory of young and ſimple people. So I have done hitherto, finding it printed, and enlarging where I think neceſſary. I find beſides another larger catechiſm with places of ſcripture printed in *Iriſh* at *Dublin* the year 52, by one *Godfrey Daniel*, with rules for reading the *Iriſh* tongue, ſhort and excellent, taking up no more than half a ſheet of paper. I greatly wiſh they were affixed to the beginning or end of that book printing now. But only I offer this to your own wiſer conſideration, whether the reading of thoſe rules may not help many for the reading and underſtanding of the book. If this motion ſhould pleaſe, and Mr. *Rely* ſhould not meet with *Daniel*'s book there, I will upon your order ſend over a copy of the rules. I fully approve of your motion to apply in the preface what yourſelf and thoſe other worthies ſhall think fit of that uſed by the *Janſeniſts* in their *French* verſion, and am not a little joyed to hear ſo great an advance to right in the *Romiſh* church, as to ſuffer the word of God to come unto vulgar tongues. My only intention for intervening in the preface was to ſecure, that the memory of the firſt and preſent patron of that work may not be concealed from grateful poſterity.

THE beſt and greateſt men of this kingdom do highly commend your pious zeal appearing in this work, and do approve of our endeavours to procure the ſpiritual welfare of this miſerably deluded people. But beſide the private oppoſition of the *Romiſh* clergy, who would have themſelves to be the only teachers, we have a more public and bolder oppoſition by ſome of our own apparent but very falſe brethren, who are not aſhamed to profeſs a diſlike of our endeavours to convert the natives of this country, upon maxims like thoſe of the *American* planters, in hindering the converſion of their ſlaves to the Chriſtian religion. One of them had the gallantry to tell me in my face, and at my own table, that while I went about to gain the *Iriſh* (to God I mean) I ſhould loſe the *Engliſh*. Our good archbiſhop has continual battles with them upon this ſubject. But I hope God will help us to carry on his work againſt oppoſitions, which ſhall never be wanting; and of this unwelcome tiding no more. My lord archbiſhop returns his very affectionate reſpects to you. He is a great honourer of your family, and how great an admirer his grace was of your honourable mother's virtues, you may ſee by an elegy he made on her death, being then fellow in the college of *Dublin*, of which I ſend here incloſed a copy to diverti ſe you from the melancholy my narrative of the proceedings of others not ſo noble ſpirits might have ingendered. I perceive your family, among other bleſſings, has this of heroic women; not to ſpeak of the neareſt to you (fearing it

ſhould come to her eyes or ears) I reckon your ſiſter *Burlington* among the beſt women, that ever I knew. God bleſs and proſper you all; and I pray excuſe the liberty my pen takes to prate, ſince my tongue is confined to more ſilence with you than I would wiſh. And now with my beſt reſpects preſented to my good lady *Ranelagh*, my lord *Burlington* and my lady, my lord *Clifford*, and the reſt of your honourable company, I reſt,

Honoured and dear Sir,
your moſt affectionate,
and moſt obedient ſervant,
ANDR. SALL.

SIR, *Dublin, Nov.* 8, 1681.

THE letter here incloſed for you from my lord biſhop of *Meath* was ſent to me this morning to view, but now late at night was ſent again to me with order from his lordſhip to ſend it incloſed to you, ſome indiſpoſition having taken himſelf, which diſabled him to diſpatch it. He came much weakened from his journey to *Kilkenny* in bad weather; and though I ſaw his lordſhip better three days ago, I perceive he is turned ill again. I do heartily pray, and I think all may do ſo, that ſo good a man may live long. I have finiſhed the preface, which he ſpeaks of, and when a copy is drawn of it, I will ſend to you ſpeedily the original. I have ſeen the *Janſenian* preface, and made of it the very uſe you mentioned in your letter to my lord biſhop of *Meath*, both for my readineſs to obey you, and the reaſonableneſs of your command herein.

I AM daily and long time expecting the old teſtament in *Iriſh* to be ſent to me to ſee what it is, and what it wants, that I may contribute my ſmall endeavour, while thoſe few live, who have any zeal of the converſion of the natives here: how few they be I bemoaned ſadly and ſeriouſly with our lord lieutenant this afternoon, admiring how few they were, that followed your heroic example, even of thoſe, whoſe calling did ſtrictly oblige them to it, and from whom I am to expect little thanks for my endeavours to co-operate herein. His grace would be glad to ſee my preface in *Engliſh*, to underſtand better the drift and profit of this undertaking; for which cauſe our learned friends do think it convenient, it ſhould be prefixed in both languages to this new edition; and I think no perſon fitter to tranſlate it than Mr. *Rely*, nor any printer fitter than the ſame formerly employed. I have received the book you ordered for me, for which I humbly thank you, and am much ſatisfied with the print. I pray let this ſatisfy Mr. *Rely*, until I ſee the old teſtament to give him more account of it.

I PRAY be pleaſed to preſent my moſt dutiful and hearty reſpects to my good lady *Ranelagh*, with moſt humble thanks to her ladyſhip, and to yourſelf, for your noble and conſtant goodneſs to me in recommending me to our great father here, who has now occaſion to befriend me in not hindering my lord lieutenant's deſire and the king's order to ſee me decently ſettled in theſe vacancies by the death of the biſhop of *Derry*. God's will be done. I am,

Honourable Sir,
your ever faithful ſervant,
ANDR. SALL.

Honourable

Honourable SIR, *Dublin*, 19, *Nov.* 1681.

HERE I ſend the preface promiſed in my laſt to you. My lord biſhop of *Meath*, the provoſt, and our other learned friends, who ſaw it, do think it appoſite and ſuitable to the genius of the people here, for inducing them to the reading of that book. What is contained in the looſe half ſheet, to be inſerted as noted in the beginning, I have added, in compliance with your direction, to let the people know the ſentiment and practice of learned men in the *Roman* church, about turning the holy ſcripture into vulgar languages. Our friends now mentioned do think convenient, that this preface ſhould be prefixed to the book both in *Engliſh* and in *Iriſh*, that ſuch as cannot read or underſtand the latter, may, by the former, perceive the profit of this undertaking. The duke, in his diſcourſe with me upon the matter, did ſeem to wiſh it were ſo done. If you think fit to order ſo much, I would deſire you to appoint ſome fit perſon to publiſh my *Engliſh* expreſſions where need is, and to get Mr. *Rely* to turn it to *Iriſh*, and ſend both printed hither, to join with the book, which is thought very neceſſary for the better ſucceſs and uſe of it. Speed herein is very much deſired by the well-wiſhers of our undertaking, which makes me ſend to you the original of my own hand, not being furniſhed with an amanuenſis to draw a legible copy.

My lord biſhop of *Meath* continues ſick, which hinders me from ſeeing the old teſtament, which he promiſed to bring to me.

I BEG of you the favour to preſent my moſt humble and affectionate reſpects to my honourable lady *Ranelagh*, my lord *Burlington*, and the reſt of that renowned family.

BUT I am to beg earneſtly of you not to abridge any thing of the very dry and ſpare mention made in the preface of your holy zeal, in providing for the good of ſouls in this country, that it may be an encouragement to others to follow your example, and a confuſion to ſuch, as will not do it. The fear of offending your ſevere modeſty ſtopt my pen from writing much more, which my judgement and inclination would prompt to me; but once again I beg of you not to hinder any thing of the very little that is ſaid. This is all at preſent from,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt affectionate,

and moſt obedient ſervant,

ANDR. SALL.

I PRAY be pleaſed to remember my ſervice to Mr. *Rely*, and tell him, that when I can come by the old teſtament in *Iriſh*, I will endeavour to ſatisfy his enquiry about it. He ſhall oblige us all much in uſing care and ſpeed in tranſlating and printing the preface ſent herewith, that it may be bound up with the book to be diſperſed.

Honourable SIR, *Dublin*, *Dec.* 13, 1681.

I HAVE the honour of yours, *November* 29, and am glad you received the preface, and that it pleaſed you, as I was to ſee ſome ingenious *Romaniſts*, who ſaw it, very much pleaſed with it. I know not, whether you will think fit to have the preface printed and prefixed to the book, both in *Engliſh* and *Iriſh*, that being thought by the well-wiſhers of this undertaking very convenient for recommending the book to ſuch, as yet underſtand not the *Iriſh*, or cannot read it, who are but too many even of the natives. It is much deſired, that the preface may come over with

all

all the ſpeed poſſible, the binding of the books ſent in ſheets being ſuſpended till it arrives.

SOME ten days ago my lord biſhop of *Meath* ſent me the manuſcript of the old teſtament in *Iriſh*, a confuſed heap, pitifully defaced and broken. It was a work of very great labour, to bring it into ſome order. I ſent for a book-binder to bind up what I could gather, of which and another uncouth bulk, ſent to me from the college, I hope to make up a complete old teſtament, by the help of God, and of Mr. *Higgin* the *Iriſh* lecturer, if he be encouraged by our prelates, wherein I wiſh they may be more zealous than accuſtomed to be.

IT will be a work of great labour, and no little time, to draw up a clear copy of the whole, purged from errors and fooliſh additions or alterations, interlaced by ſome unlucky corrector, pretending to criticiſm in *Iriſh*. I pray be pleaſed to give notice hereof with my kind ſalutes to Mr. *Rely*, and my earneſt requeſt (if any weight may be thereby added to your command) that he haſten the work of printing the preface.

THE good biſhop of *Meath* continues ſtill very ill, keeping his chamber, though ſometimes up. I ſent now to know of his health, and am told, he was long time aſleep, which often comes upon him.

I BESEECH you, Sir, be pleaſed to preſent my moſt humble and affectionate reſpects to my good lady *Ranelagh*, my lord and my lady of *Burlington*, and the reſt of that moſt honourable family, ſpecially to my lord *Hyde*, who, by your honourable brother's means, was pleaſed generouſly to offer me his favour; and if his lordſhip, or my lord chancellor, my noble favourer, were induced to write a word in my commendation to my lord of *Ormond*, it would avail much to make him remember the king's order in my behalf, and deal according to it with me. I am,

Honourable Sir,

your truly affectionate,

and moſt faithful ſervant,

ANDR. SALL.

Honourable SIR, *Dublin, Feb.* 7, 1681.

AS ſoon as I received yours of *January* 21, I beſtirred myſelf, with all care poſſible, to effect your pious deſire of having the printing of the old teſtament in *Iriſh* to begin ſpeedily, and having found out haply a very able perſon to write *Iriſh*, I brought him to my houſe, and ſet him to work, and already has written out eight chapters of *Geneſis*, in a very fair letter, as legible as any print, and within four days will have the twelve ſheets, which Mr. *Rely* deſires to be ſent over, and as faſt as the print can go, I hope to ſend over ſheets in the ſame manner; to effect which, I ſent for Mr. *Reeves* this morning, who has promiſed me to find out friends, going hence to *London*, by whom we may ſend the ſheets, to ſave the great charges of ſending them by the poſt. I agreed with the ſcribe for one ſhilling for each ſheet; the provoſt and Mr. *Higgin* think that to be the leaſt he can expect, conſidering the ſpecial difficulty of writing that language. I deſire to know your own opinion, with Mr. *Rely*'s, upon that; as alſo that the ſubſcriptions may be immediately begun and ſent over, whereby to defray the charges of this writing. I wiſh my ſtock were as able as my heart would be willing to bear all myſelf. My labour and induſtry I will not ſpare, and will lay aſide other ſtudies I was engaged in to attend this work, being perſuaded, that none other can be of more importance for the glory of God and the good of ſouls in this poor country. I have been confirmed in this perſuaſion, by the great

great joy I see in the country, for the publishing of the testament, with many blessings on you, and prayers for you, whose great piety and bounty procured this happiness for them. I am glad my good lady *Ranelagh* has that interest in the new bishop of *Meath*, and is pleased to improve it for advancing this great service of God. He is the only man, his predecessor a little before his death told me, he had gained to join with him in this work. But if my lady interposes, his assistance will be more assured. I hope I have gained something upon his successor, the dean of *Christ Church*, now bishop of *Kildare*, to join in the same holy design. I wish these two bishops and the provost may be the proposers and collectors of the subscriptions, and that these may be immediately set going, both here and among your noble friends in *England*. Sir *Joseph Williamson*, meeting with me here last summer, did enjoin me to hasten the setting on the subscriptions, to which himself and others there would willingly concur.

I WOULD think it very convenient, to prefix some few lines to the papers of subscriptions, importing the benefit of this work to this nation: and none can better perform that than yourself, applying thereto some of those considerations happily expressed in your excellent tract of the Stile of Scripture, which I have read with exceeding great pleasure, praising God for those gifts you received from him, and your good use made of them; both which I pray may be continued to you, with a long and happy life. What I can offer, is, the drudgery of inspecting and correcting this confused chaos of papers, put into my hands, with such auxiliaries, as God shall be pleased to provide for me. I write to Mr. *Rely*, the letter I make bold to inclose here, not knowing how to direct it to him otherwise; in which I endeavour to encourage him for continuing the work of correcting the print, as I hope you will more effectually do by your authority; and truly I know none so able as he to do that work.

I PRAY be pleased to let me know by the next, how you will have the three hundred and fifty testaments, now to be bound with the preface, to be disposed; and how many you will be pleased I may bestow on such as shall make the best use of them, for the end pretended to; and whether you think fit, that some of them may be exposed to sale at a low rate, that may encourage the people to buy them. Several gentlemen of the country, *Romanists*, came to me this term, earnestly desiring to have them for reading to their families, and one promised to urge their priests to read chapters of it at mass to the congregation. For this purpose I wish, that a great number of the next edition may be exposed to sale at a low rate. I crave the favour of presenting my cordial respects to my honourable lady *Ranelagh*, and the rest of your renowned family; and, praying for all happiness to you, I remain,

Honourable Sir,

your most affectionately devoted,

and much obliged servant,

ANDR. SALL.

I HAVE little to say of my concerns; all the vacancies filled, and no effect appearing of great promises given to me. But as reward of that kind did not invite me to begin, I hope the want of it, by God's help, will not hinder me to prosecute.

MY dwelling is next house to *Young's-Castle* in *Oxmans* town.

Letters

Letters from the lord MASSEREENE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Antrim, Dec.* 15, 1680.

HAVING laſt night been called out of our houſe to view a blaze or faint pale ſtream, which roſe above our horizon, and put us all to great wonder; I took out the celeſtial globe, and my ſon a quadrant, and had ſeveral perſons with us to obſerve the thing and the motion; the deſcription whereof (as well as we could make it) is here offered you, and deſire to know, if it appeared at *London*, or if you have obſerved or heard any thing of it.

I SHALL every night take notice, and in the mornings alſo, if it appear again, as we conclude it will; and ſubmit this incloſed narrative to your ſerious and judicious ſcrutiny. I have ſent the like to Sir *Samuel Morland* by this poſt.

PARDON this haſty and rude addreſs. I am,

Honoured dear Sir,

your very affectionate,

and humble ſervant,

MASSEREENE.

Incloſed in the preceding.

In the north of *Ireland*, at *Antrim*, *Dec.* 14, 1680.

ABOUT half an hour after four o'clock this afternoon, the evening being clear, and the moon bright, was obſerved at this place (which is in the lat. 54 deg. 30 min.) a ſtrange phænomenon. About ſouth-weſt a ſtar of the fourth magnitude (as we reckoned by its appearance a little above the horizon) emitted a ſtrange luminous body, or ray, which aſcended after the manner of a pillar about 45 degrees towards the zenith, in a direct line, about ſix o'clock when it was at the longeſt. At the bottom it appeared about a foot broad, compact and fiery, increaſing gradually in breadth, till about the middle it appeared more than two feet broad, more clear and pale: from thence in its aſcent (by the heel of *Antinous* through *Aquila*, to the neck of *Cygnus* to our obſervation) it grew more rare and ſlender toward the top. Its bright tail or fiery emication followed the motion of the ſtar, and others, which accompanied it, ſtill retaining the ſame poſition, till it came to due weſt, where the ſtar ſet, and its tail grew ſhorter and ſhorter, till at length about eight o'clock it quite diſappeared.

Much honoured SIR, *Fiſherwick* near *Leichfield*, *Oct.* 8, 1690.

WHAT was ſo remarkable in this and divers places adjacent, between the hours of ſeven and eight in the morning yeſterday, I offer to your conſideration, which was undoubtedly true as I relate it, and may poſſibly confirm the ſame account from other places, concerning an earthquake, which happened at that time here, and at *Leichfield*, three miles off, as one of the bailiffs to me this day affirms; and it was at *Aldraws*, a town two miles off, belonging to baron *Turton*, as I was aſſured, and by my wife, my ſon, and daughters, and divers of the ſervants in this houſe obſerved, and by the children in ſeveral rooms taken notice of at the ſame preciſe moment of time yeſterday morning, by the frightful concuſſion of the rooms, partitions of the houſe, pictures, beds, and other moveables, one door flying open as my ſon Sir *George* ſat near it, and he thought the beams of the houſe had given way.

There

There was no great wind at the time, but the day before thunder and lightning, and ſome ſort of tempeſtuous winds, but at that time none at all. I was in bed aſleep, and did not obſerve it; but all others in bed at that hour, and thoſe who were riſing, agree in one ſort of narrative thereof; and is not unworthy your knowledge, who may from other hands have the ſame intimation. My ſervice to my dear aunt *Ranelagh* and couſins. I am rejoiced to hear, that *Cork* is ſurrendered. I am,

SIR,

your moſt affectionate, humble,
and faithful ſervant,
MASSEREENE.

To the lord biſhop of Meath.

My Lord, *Aug.* 27, 1681.

HAVING carefully read over the *Janſeniſts* preface to the New Teſtament, publiſhed by them in *French*, I make bold to give your lordſhip my preſent thoughts concerning it; but with that deference and reſpect, which I owe, and always will bear, to your lordſhip's and other better judgments.

THE preface I find to be very well penned, and adapted to the book, whereto it is prefixed, ſerving the deſign of the publiſhers of that tranſlation as properly as can be imagined. But being ſo proper to that tranſlation, I fear it may not ſo well ſerve another, eſpecially one publiſhed by proteſtants, for theſe following reaſons.

1. BECAUSE there are ſome reflections in it a little too ſevere on proteſtant tranſlators, which cannot well be countenanced by us.

2. THERE is a ſentence or two, which I obſerved in the original, to favour too much of popery to paſs a proteſtant preſs.

3. PART of the preface is ſpent in ſhewing the imperfections of the old *French* tranſlation of the New Teſtament, and why a new *French* tranſlation thereof is requiſite; which would be beſides the purpoſe, ſhould this preface be printed with any other tranſlation.

4. MANY paragraphs are written to ſhew, what rules were obſerved in this *French* tranſlation; ſome whereof cannot, and I believe others do not agree to any other tranſlation; and therefore that alſo would be beſides the purpoſe.

5. THE authors of that preface have beſtowed not a little pains to ſhew, how difficult (if not impoſſible) a thing it is to make an exact tranſlation of the Bible; which though true, yet whether it be adviſeable, that it ſhould be made known to the commonalty of this kingdom (who are already but too much addicted to the vulgar, which they eſteem as authentic) is worth while to conſider.

Now if all theſe things be let continue in the preface, I fear it will not anſwer the deſign; beſides other inconveniencies, that may follow it: and if they be left out, the preface itſelf will then be both maimed and inconſiderable.

THUS I have freely given my opinion in this caſe; but with due reſpect and ſubmiſſion to your lordſhip's judgment, and with an appeal alſo to your lordſhip's candour and favour for what I have done, whereof it ſtands very much in need; and which, together with your bleſſing, I crave on,

My lord, your lordſhip's moſt dutiful,
and obedient ſervant,
NARCISSUS MARSH.

I HAVE herewith ſent the tranſlation of the preface, but mended in the firſt page, that your lordſhip may diſcern how imperfectly it is done, and much beſide the original.

Letters from Dr. NARCISSUS MARSH *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Trinity College* near *Dublin*, *Dec.* 27, 1681.

THE ſeeming neglect, whereof I have been guilty, in not paying you my humble and hearty thanks for the favour that you did this college and me in ſending the *Iriſh* Teſtaments hither, is crime enough to make me aſhamed now to attempt it. But ſince the delay of this my duty was ſolely cauſed by the biſhop of *Meath*'s indiſpoſition, which rendered (and ſtill does render) him unable to look after the diſpoſal of theſe books, whereof I was deſirous to give you an account; and ſeeing that he is not likely for ſome time yet to be in a condition to do it, I could no longer (without great indecency) forbear the return of my humble acknowledgments in my own behalf for the book, which you were pleaſed to preſent unto me, and in this college's name alſo, for that ſent unto our library, and for the other forty deſigned for the uſe of the college, in inſtructing the young ſtudents of it in the *Iriſh* tongue. All which are accordingly employed, with good ſucceſs, to the uſe for which they were intended.

AND here I cannot but take notice, that the whole deſign of teaching *Iriſh* muſt of neceſſity have fallen to the ground in a very little time, had not you ſeaſonably aſſiſted and encouraged the undertaking by your books, as well as otherwiſe; which has now put life into it again, and ſo ſet it on foot, as that I have hopes it will at length come to maturity; ſince both the young men are willing to learn, and Mr. *Higgins* alſo is induſtrious to teach them, and by his *Iriſh* ſermons invites many to come to our church, who are of another perſuaſion, his auditors being ſeldom fewer than three hundred, whereof ſeveral are papiſts.

IN order to the better carrying on of this deſign (which I hope that God will crown with ſucceſs for the good of this nation) I have been at ſome pains in collecting (out of ſuch helps as I could get) and digeſting a very compendious *Iriſh* grammar, fitted for the uſe of learners, which is almoſt finiſhed, and ſhould be printed, if I knew how to get it done. I believe a brief dialogue in *Iriſh* and *Latin* would do well to be annexed to it, ſince it will not ſwell it to any conſiderable bulk, nor ſo much enhance its price, as render it uſeful.

THE reſt of your books (beſides thoſe ordered for particular perſons, and which were given to them accordingly, as I preſume my lord biſhop of *Meath* has informed you) are in my cuſtody undiſpoſed of, though deſired by ſeveral gentlemen abroad, who are lovers or promoters of the *Iriſh* tongue. But I can do nothing herein, until I may receive my lord biſhop's directions, with whom they were entruſted; unleſs at any time you ſhall pleaſe to ſend yours, which ſhall be punctually obſerved by,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt obliged,

humble ſervant,

NARCISSUS MARSH.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, April* 8, 1682.

I HAVE newly received the prefaces to the *Iriſh* teſtaments, which, as ſoon as bound, ſhall be diſtributed ſo as may beſt anſwer the end of your printing them; but herein I would gladly receive your directions, before I do any thing, if you have any to give in particular. The deſign of printing the Old Teſtament in the ſame language has received a great (though I hope not a fatal) ſtroke by the death of Dr. *Sall*, who departed this life *April* 5, in the evening, having been for ſome time a little indiſpoſed (but not at all very ill) of a cold; ſo that his death was almoſt ſudden and unexpected. I intend, that the reviſing of that old tranſlation of the Old Teſtament, and its tranſcription, ſhall nevertheleſs go on with the help of Mr. *Higgins* and ſome other *Iriſhmen*, whom I will call in to aſſiſt; if I can but diſcern, that by God's help, I may be able to guide and direct the management of the work, what pains ſoever it may coſt me. And for ſubſcriptions, I doubt not but enough might eaſily be gotten to ſo pious an undertaking, were it put it into a due method, for which I ſhould be glad to receive your inſtructions. And in order to the ſetting this on foot ſucceſsfully, I believe it would be convenient, that we ſhould have one ſheet printed off, to exhibit as a ſpecimen of the whole work, and of the real deſign there is to go thorough with it.

I HUMBLY thank you for the encouragement that you gave in your letter to Dr. *Sall* for the printing my little grammar, which ſhall be put into *Engliſh* (whereby it will become of more general uſe) as ſoon as I can get a little leiſure to do it, and then I will give you a more perfect account thereof, and of ſuch other things as may relate to your truly pious and good work, and the end thereof, which is to acquaint the poor ignorant ſouls of this kingdom (who ſit in moſt lamentable darkneſs) with the word of God, whereof they now know nothing. Certainly God will reward what has been done that way already, and will not ſuffer that, which remains yet undone, to come to nought for want of encouragers. In confidence whereof, I reſolve to proſecute this undertaking with all the vigour that may be, and to truſt God with a bleſſing thereupon, who never fails thoſe that depend on him, eſpecially in buſineſs that directly tends to the manifeſtation of his will, and thereby the ſalvation of ſouls. I am,

Honoured Sir,
your very humble,
and obliged ſervant,
NARCISSUS MARSH.

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, June* 23, 1682.

I LAY hold of the opportunity, which this gentleman affords me, to let you know, that ſince Dr. *Sall*'s death, I have taken upon me the care to ſee the *Iriſh* Bible tranſcribed and fitted for the preſs. The work goes on ſucceſsfully, there being above a hundred and forty ſheets tranſcribed already. All our care at preſent is, how to get the charges of tranſcribing and printing it to be defrayed, which muſt be done by ſubſcriptions; to facilitate which the biſhop of *Meath* and I have upon conſultation thought of this way (if you ſhall approve of it) *viz.* to make this propoſal, that whoſoever will ſubſcribe ſo much money, as upon computation we ſhall find the Old Teſtament printed will be worth (we gueſs it may be a guinea, or thereabouts) he ſhall have the New Teſtament in hand, and the Old Teſtament, when it comes out. If you think this way may prove prejudicial to your charitable deſign, becauſe happily many men would be glad to have the New Teſtament, who cannot ſpare a guinea to

purchaſe the Old, then the biſhop of *Meath* deſired me to mention another expedient for it, which is, after a hundred and fifty of the copies are freely given to ſuch as are indigent, to expoſe the reſt to ſale, whereby money may be raiſed for the carrying on the other work. I deſire to know, whether you do approve of either of theſe ways, and therewith alſo what the charges of printing the Old Teſtament may come to. The copies of the New are now almoſt bound, and ready to be diſperſed.

Mr. *Reeves* informed me, that you had ordered five pounds to be paid to Mr. *Higgins*, but before he would do it, made enquiry of me concerning his condition. I gave him the ſame anſwer that I write unto you, which is, that he does not deſerve it, both becauſe he has gotten good preferment worth at preſent 110 *l. per ann.* and alſo becauſe he has put himſelf out of a capacity of being farther ſerviceable towards the carrying on my deſign of teaching *Iriſh* in the college, by getting him a wife as ſoon as he had gotten himſelf preferment; ſo that he is very ſhortly leaving me, and I muſt be at new charges to provide another to ſupply his place; notwithſtanding that his preferment was given him on purpoſe, that he might promote this deſign, and to fix him to the college. If therefore, Sir, you pleaſe, that this five pounds ſhould be paid to the *Iriſhman*, who tranſcribes the Old Teſtament, and that it ſhall go in part of payment for that he hath done, I will take care, that it ſhall be truly paid him, and I am ſure it will be better beſtowed by much, than it would be on Mr. *Higgins*, who in other things beſides theſe mentioned has not ſhewed himſelf to be ſo virtuous a man, as I could wiſh him to be.

I HAVE not been able yet to get leiſure to tranſlate the *Iriſh* grammar, whereof I formerly made mention, and to fit it for the preſs; but ſhortly hope to find leiſure enough for a work of no greater pains than that will be.

SIR, the bearer hereof is one Mr. *Mullan*, batchelor in phyſic of this college, who has been ſucceſsful in ſeveral things that he has undertaken, eſpecially in anatomy, wherein he has good ſkill; and had an opportunity the laſt ſummer to exerciſe it on an occaſion, that rarely occurs, namely, in diſſecting the elephant, which was burnt here in *Dublin*; whereof he will give you as perfect an account, as can be expected from one in thoſe circumſtances, that he then was, if you deſire it, he having committed all to writing. He will alſo give you ſome account of a caſtor, that he here diſſected.

BUT I have too long troubled you already, and ſhall therefore beg leave here to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble ſervant,

NARCISSUS MARSH.

Mr. BOYLE *to Dr.* MARSH.

Worthy SIR, *London, Auguſt* 1, 1682.

I AM troubled, and almoſt aſhamed, that I muſt begin this letter with the acknowledgment of a diſaſter, that befel yours before it came to my hands: for it being brought yeſterday from the poſt, not directly to me, but to a ſervant, that was then buſied about the fire, to make a chemical experiment, I had ordered him to attend in my abſence, he having laid it by for a while, a kindled coal unluckily lighted on the letter, and burned it quite thorough in that part, that contained (as I conjectured) ſome of the moſt important paſſages of it. However, being very deſirous to prevent delays, I ſhall venture to anſwer what I gueſs to have been the main contents

tents of it. It seems then to me the desire, both of my lord bishop of *Meath* and yourself, that for expedition's sake I should advance the money I have here set apart for that work, to give it a beginning; and his lordship promises, that he will procure bills for 50 *l.* more in few weeks, which added to that money of mine, his lordship (reasonably presumes) will be a sufficient encouragement to the printer to begin forthwith, and to engage Mr. *Rely*. I can without reluctancy consent to this proposal, it being in effect little, if any thing more, than what I formerly offered myself. And in compliance with it, I have already sent to Mr. *Rely* (to whom I shewed your letter) and got him to go to seek out the printer, and engage him: of which if he brings me a seasonable account, you may receive it with this paper; but I am loth to lose this night's post upon the uncertain expectation of it. I had yesterday in the evening the honour to be visited by the bishop of St. *Asaph* and the bishop of *Kildare*, who both of them together seemed much to approve what we are doing. Of the former, because his diocese is in *Wales*, I earnestly desired a copy of the forms of the subscriptions for the printing of the *Welsh* Bible, which he readily promised to do his endeavour to procure. But, though I am confident of his sincerity, yet (he being this day to leave the town) I much doubt of his success, and therefore will not lose time in waiting for the event. My lord bishop of *Kildare* did not only speak affectionately of our design, but was pleased to desire me to let him know when he is in *Ireland*, wherein he may promote it, which he appears very forward to do. This offer was too advantageous to be refused, and accordingly I embraced it with thanks; and hope good use of it will be made, as occasion shall require, by my lord of *Meath* and yourself; who have both of you been the early and eminent promoters of this work; and therefore will be glad to receive so considerable an assistant in carrying it on. The above-mentioned disaster keeps me from being able to read something towards the close of your letter, that seems to relate to subscriptions, and that in a way more honourable for me than is needful. But as to the proposal, that I would consent, that the 50 *l.* I long since lodged in Sir *John Champanty*'s hands, should be received at *Dublin*, and employed to defray the charge of transcription, *&c.* (by which *&c.* I suppose you mean some other charges, for the sum, I hope, will bear it) since I look upon the having copies duly prepared for the press, as a necessary part of the work, I am willing the money mentioned should be employed as is desired, and shall (God permitting) speedily take order to have it assigned for those uses.

SINCE I told you I had sent Mr. *Rely* to the printer, he is come back to me, and brings me word, that he could not possibly find him, but presumes he shall do it tomorrow; and desires the assistance of a servant of mine, who is not unacquainted with the law, to help him to draw up the agreement; whereof I hope you may in my next receive a particular account from,

Worthy Sir,

your most affectionate,

and most humble servant.

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, Sept.* 30, 1682.

BOTH your last of *September* I have received, and am much of your opinion, that for the reasons mentioned the marginal renderings ought not at this time to be inserted, could it conveniently have been done, and had you fit letters for it; chiefly because it would give too great an advantage to the adversaries against this translation, by furnishing them with an argument, from its seeming dubiousness and uncertainty. But the parallel places being of good use, and not bringing along with them the-

the ſame inconveniencies, I ſhall take care, that hencefor[illegible] they be inſerted in all the copy that ſhall hereafter be ſent; that ſo Mr. *Rely* may not have more laid on him, than needs muſt.

I AM very ſorry, that Mr. *Rely* has reaſon to make ſuch complaints of the tranſcriber's negligence; whereof I knew nothing before, but have now given him a ſpecial charge about it; and do moreover wonder, how ſo many faults could eſcape the diligence of Dr. *Sall* and Mr. *Higgins*, in examining the copy; moſt of what has been yet ſent being done by them. I have now taken another courſe, which I hope will prevent the like for the future. And indeed this, and the gentleman's falling ſick, whom I chiefly make uſe of for the comparing, examining and adjuſting the copy, has made mé the ſlower in ſending over more, than otherwiſe I ſhould have been. Next week I hope to ſend all to the end of the *Pentateuch*; and after that I dare promiſe, that they ſhall want no more, if I might but know the means how conſtantly to ſend it, as I have it ready; whereof I ſhould be glad to be informed, if you know of any.

MY lord biſhop of *Meath* (as likewiſe the biſhop of *Kildare*) gives you his humble ſervice, and deſires me to inform you, that, in order to the getting ſubſcriptions, he has written unto ſeveral biſhops, whoſe anſwers (which he ſhewed me) generally are, that they will caſt in their mites for the carrying on ſo good a work, when they know what methods will be uſed for the gathering them, and alſo what others give, that they may have ſome pattern to conform unto.

LATELY underſtanding, that my lord archbiſhop of *Canterbury* was very ſolicitous to know, what is become of biſhop *Bedell*'s tranſlation of the Old Teſtament into *Iriſh* (becauſe he is now about to write his life) and it being the copy that I have, I gave his grace an account where it is, and what is doing with it, and likewiſe, that through your care, as well as at your preſent charges, it is begun to be printed. If I may judge by what I have heard concerning his grace's zeal for the work, I cannot doubt, but he would be ready to encourage it, if application were made to him.

I HAVE only this to add, that I have received your fifty pounds from Sir *John Champanty*, whereof you ſhall have a punctual account how I diſburſe it; that one hundred of your *Iriſh* Teſtaments are to be ſent next week to *Caſhell*, to be diſpoſed of by my lord archbiſhop in that province, now that his grace is well enough to do it; and that I am,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble

and obedient ſervant,

NARCISSUS MARSH.

I HAVE been ſo unhappy, as not to be able to make any obſervations on the late comet, nor to ſee it more than twice, when its head appeared to the naked eye much bigger, and its tail much ſhorter than that of the laſt. The virtuoſi in *London*, who are always intent on what is rare, I preſume have not let it eſcape their accurate obſervations.

I HAVE ready tranſcribed as far as *Ezra*; but intend to have it all examined with a great deal of care, before it be ſent, becauſe ſo many faults have eſcaped in what is gone already.

Honoured

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, February* 17, 1682-3.

I HAVE been but too long ſilent, which I cannot charge upon want of health, I praiſe God, but chiefly upon extraordinary and troubleſome occaſions. Nevertheleſs the tranſcriber goes on with his work, having written as far as the end of *Jeremiah*'s prophecy. I have alſo gotten examined, and ready to be ſent, as much copy as reaches to the middle of the firſt book of *Kings*; only I want an opportunity of conveying it to *London*, which I have a long time waited for in vain, but will ſhortly, if poſſible, find one out. I have hitherto found it very troubleſome to get the copy well examined, becauſe it is hard to get thoſe together, who ſhould do it, their other occaſions calling them another way; which is the only reaſon, why the printer has not been better ſupplied. I have urged the biſhop of *Meath* to haſten the ſubſcriptions (who has taken upon himſelf that part of the work, namely, to get ſubſcriptions) but I do not find, that any are yet received by him.

WHAT Mr. *Rely* objects againſt the *Iriſh* tranſlation, that it follows the *Engliſh* too much word for word, whereby the phraſe many times is rendered leſs proper and more obſcure, is confeſſed by thoſe, who well underſtand the language, to have much of truth in it, as to the firſt part of the allegation; but they add, that though the *Iriſh* thereby may be leſs elegant, yet it is proper enough, and nevertheleſs intelligible by the vulgar people; yea they think it is a good, plain, familiar tranſlation, and that if it were more elegant, it would not be ſo fit, as now it is, for common uſe. This I ſpeak, not as vindicating the tranſlation myſelf, but as dictated to me by ſome others. The gentleman, who corrected the laſt ſheets and inſerted his alterations, I fear, will not get leiſure to do much more after the ſame manner; and for the ſcribe, I put him upon uſing all the care that he can, and the greateſt ſkill that he hath, who is the beſt at that work that can be gotten here. The tranſlation, I conceive, ought not lightly to be altered, but where it is faulty, out of reſpect to the author of it, biſhop *Bedell*, whoſe memory I know that my lord archbiſhop of *Canterbury* does honour; and with what care he cauſed it to be made by *Ulſtermen*, is ſufficiently known. The grammar I formerly mentioned, as it is not yet finiſhed, becauſe other buſineſs has conſtantly hindered me from taking it in hand again, ſo neither is it quite laid by, but ſhall ſhortly, God willing, be reſumed and finiſhed, if one difficulty about the verbs, whereat I ſtick can be ſurmounted, whereof I do not deſpair. But the misfortune is, that I cannot meet with an *Iriſhman*, who underſtands any thing of the grammar of his own language; ſo that none (or but very little) help is to be had from them, in order to the finiſhing this work, which I hope will nevertheleſs be ſhortly completed by,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble ſervant,

NARCISSUS MARSH.

AN unfortunate fall from my horſe, whereby one of my arms was ſo bruiſed, that I could not for a long time write, has partly occaſioned both my ſilence and neglect of finiſhing the grammar.

Honoured SIR, *Stapleſtown*, near *Catherlaugh*, *Aug.* 24, 1685.

IT has not been without reaſon, that I have been thus long ſilent. For being removed into the country, I left the remaining part of the *Iriſh* Bible, namely, the *Apocrypha*, in the ſame hands that reviſed a great part of the reſt, to examine whether it be truly written or no; it being then all (or very near all) tranſcribed.

But

But not being upon the place to call on him to dispatch the work, I fear, that he has done little or nothing to it; which yet would not be yet much material, if the copy could be gotten out of his hands. For he thinking that he has an advantage, refuses to deliver it (as Dr. *Huntington* informs me, he being a master of arts of the college) unless I will pay him twenty pounds for his labour of reading it over, which I think is very unreasonable, and that he has had enough already, when I gave him four pounds ten shillings for that very work of reading over the transcript. The man indeed is very poor, and I believe that is the thing, that makes him so unreasonable in his demands.

BUT it falls out very luckily, that you do not intend to print the *Apocrypha* at this time, as I am informed.

SIR, if this business had been well over, I should, before now, have given you an account of the disbursement of your fifty pounds, that I received in *Dublin*, to pay the transcriber, *&c.* with whom Dr. *Sall*, in his life time, agreed for transcribing the whole *Irish* Bible, at twelve pence *per* sheet; which was not very dear, considering how difficult a thing it was to read the copy; it being in many places not legible, and in others several words together quite effaced, either through age or ill usage, or both; the book also having taken wet, whereupon he was forced to translate passages here and there anew. The scribe moreover had the advantage of his diet at Dr. *Sall*'s, and of writing in his house; neither of which I could grant him in the college; and therefore he was earnest to have an allowance made for that, beyond his twelvepence *per* sheet; which not being part of his bargain, I did not think it reasonable to yield thereunto; though some advantage he did make in another respect, by writing in smaller paper than he at first begun upon, because no larger was then to be gotten in the town.

SIR, I have not quite laid aside the thoughts of an *Irish* grammar; for though some difficulties seem to me almost insuperable, notwithstanding the helps both of books and men, that I here meet with for that purpose, yet diligence, I hope, will conquer most of them, and the rest must be left to be resolved by such as are well skilled in the language. However I have gotten together such a collection of rules and examples, as will be no small help to the learner, both as to the reading and writing of that language, and also the true understanding of it; most of which are already digested, and want only to be translated into the *English* tongue, as you formerly desired to have done. Between four and five sheets, I suppose, will contain the whole, which shall be dispatched as soon as I can; but I can promise nothing certain for the time, being daily diverted by other business. My endeavours shall not be wanting, to give it a speedy dispatch.

The disbursement of your money is as follows.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
	50	00	0
PAID for transcribing 719½ sheets	35	19	6
For pens, ink, and paper (whereof 18 quires were 8 *d. per* quire, the rest 6 *d.*	00	18	0
For translating 17 psalms, that were wanting	03	00	0
To Mr. *Mullan*, for revising the transcript	04	10	0
At the Custom-house for the *Irish* Testament	00	09	2
	44	16	8
So that there remains in my hands due to you	05	03	4

Which sum shall be paid as you shall order it.

SIR,

SIR, the charges of tranſcribing, you perceive by the above account, are unreaſonably great, being much more than you computed they would amount to. But if you ſubduct the following ſums, which, I ſuppoſe, was not thought of in your computation, *viz.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
	35	19	6
For tranſcribing about 157 ſheets of the *Apocrypha* (for I compute it in the tranſcript to be above a fifth part of the whole Bible)	07	17	0
The remaining ſum of —— ——	28	02	6

will be the charge for tranſcribing the Bible; beſides what was paid for paper, reviſing, and tranſlating, as above.

I WILL endeavour to get the *Apocrypha* out of the reviſer's hands, that all that charge may not be thrown away. What of your New Teſtaments are yet undiſpoſed (and ſome there are, though not many) I think may go along with the Old Teſtament, to ſuch as have none of it already; wherein, as alſo in any thing elſe, within my power, I ſhall be moſt ready to ſerve you to the utmoſt of it; being very deſirous to approve myſelf,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble and obedient ſervant,

Narciſſus Fern. & Leighlin.

Right honourable, *Stapleſtown, March* 22, 1685-6.

I OWN to have received a letter from you ſome time ſince by the hands of Sir *Paul Rycaut*, wherein you impowered me to beſtow ſomething of your money (yet remaining in my hands) on Mr. *Mullan*, who reviſed the tranſcript of the *Iriſh* Bible, in order to the redeeming from him the tranſcript of the apocryphal books, which he detained. Accordingly, by the advice of Dr. *Huntington*, our worthy provoſt, I gave him ten plate cobs, in your name, and redeemed the copy, which I lodged with Dr. *Huntington*, to be ſent to you, when there ſhall be an opportunity, as you ſhall require. I attribute this manner of acting to have proceeded from Mr. *Mullan*'s miſerable poverty; who, though a divine, a convert, and reaſonably well learned, has not yet been ſo fortunate, as to get any preferment, nor I been able to beſtow any upon him, as I have long deſigned.

UPON the hint in your letter of my lord lieutenant's favourable thoughts of this deſign of publiſhing the Bible in the *Iriſh* tongue, I made bold to addreſs to his excellency about it (and that the rather, becauſe I have gotten a great deal of ill will from ſome great men in this kingdom for what I have done in promoting this good and charitable work, which has been no ſmall diſcouragement to me.) His excellence was pleaſed to promiſe his encouragement and aſſiſtance towards the carrying it on, both by his purſe and otherwiſe; but withal was ſurpriſed to hear what I related of the diſcouragements (and indeed threats) that I have had on this account. The unwelcomeneſs of this undertaking to many in this country, I believe, was the reaſon, why the biſhop of *Meath* flew off from proſecuting what he deſigned and promiſed, and has ever ſince been wholly unconcerned, and ſat neuter. Notwithſtanding all which, I hope to finiſh the deſigned grammar, wherein I find many unexpected difficulties, and no body able to ſolve them. An account of the *Iriſh* language, as to the original and nature of it, long ſince promiſed

to the provoſt, is now coming to me: if any thing in it be material, care ſhall be taken, that it be fitted to be joined with the other. The great charges and care that you have been at in printing the Old Teſtament, will, I hope, find that acknowledgment, and the pious work find that acceptance amongſt the generality of this kingdom, as they really do deſerve; and that a means will yet be found out to commit the book of common prayers in the *Iriſh* tongue to the preſs alſo; that ſo the deſign of the canons of this church, which require every pariſh to have the Bible and book of common prayers in *Iriſh*, may be anſwered. I ſhall at preſent add no more, but that I am,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble ſervant,

Narciſſus Fern. & Leighlin.

				l.	*s.*	*d.*
Remained on my former account	—	—	—	5	03	04
Paid to Mr. *Mullan* 10 weight cobs	—	—	—	2	07	06
Remains in my hands				2	15	10

YOUR letter directed to me at *Stapleſtown* near *Carlow*, would have come ſafe to me by poſt.

Letters from Dr. WILLIAM AVERY *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *Boſton, New England, Nov.* 9, 1682.

IT is almoſt an unpardonable boldneſs in ſo mean a perſon as myſelf, to give your honour that trouble, which more than once you have received from me; and the reſpect and condeſcendency which you have already ſhewn me, is that, for which I can never make any ſuitable return.

HONOURABLE Sir, my earneſt deſire to be a comfort to the ſick makes me reſtleſs in my deſires and endeavours to do better for them than yet I can. But ſince the death of that my reverend friend, of whom I have made former mention to yourſelf, I can have but little correſpondence with any ſtudent in phyſic among ourſelves, as to what concerns chemical operations. I have earneſtly endeavoured to find the alcaheſt, and have for that end had an eye upon ☉☿, upon ☐, upon ☿– and upon the ſcum, that is found in many places ſwimming on the top of the waters (that I might make my experiments conformed to the ſeveral hints that I have met with in my authors;) but as yet I have been unſucceſsful: and if your honour could ſee cauſe to aſſiſt me in this difficult work, I cannot but hope, that the great God would fully recompenſe ſuch charity, ſhewn not only to me, but unto the ſick—unto many ſick ones. *Matt.* xxv. 43.

BUT I forbear—

I HAVE, with my worthy friend, Mr. *Richard Wharton*, ſent your honour a few minerals, with a note of them incloſed in this paper. I have alſo ſent unto your honour, two or three little books, that are a narrative of the afflictions, which a Chriſtian gentlewoman underwent in and by our *Indian* wars. There were indeed many, whoſe ſufferings were like to hers, but where are the nine? I ſhall juſt give your honour the diverſion of one paſſage here.—There was one, who in a ſkirmiſh with the *Indians* was ſhot with a bullet in at his right ear, and when the ſurgeon came to dreſs

dreſs it, that which he injected at the right ear came out at the left eye—and yet the man recovered—is now living—was lately at my houſe—

AND now let your honour give me leave to be emptying of my little rivulets into an ocean, and ſet two or three more of my poor obſervations in your view.

HONOURABLE Sir, it has ſurpriſed me to ſee, how wonderfully the earth brings forth, according to the firſt command, even where there can be no ſuſpicion of any ſeed to be conveyed unto the place, and where the earth perhaps in reaſon would be the moſt unapt for fruitfulneſs, as being digged out of cellars, and out of the bottom of deep wells. There have I ſeen herbs ſpring as thick as they could ſtand well one by another; and taking up divers of them, I have found the huſk of a perfect ſeed, which has divided itſelf in its coming forth of the ground, like the ſeeds of herbs of that kind, that afterwards ſpring from them: but thoſe ſeeds, which the unaſſiſted earth produced of itſelf, were far leſs than others—perhaps by a fourth part—

SIR, Mr. *Wharton* and myſelf being at the ſhop of a braſier in *Boſton*, we ſaw clay there, that had been brought from an iſland adjacent, called *Martha*'s Vineyard—Of this clay they uſed to make melting pots. The clay was brought by ſea, in a barrel. They unheaded the barrel, took clay for their preſent uſe, and headed it up again. But the next time they came to open the barrel for more clay, they found a great part of it turned to a black duſt, and the clay next the duſt was become uſeleſs. This Mr. *Wharton* and myſelf were eye-witneſſes of, and ſaw, that there was no ſuſpicion of any deceit in the matter, or of any external cauſe being inſtrumental in the tranſmutation. We have ſent this clay and duſt, ſome of it, to your honour, that it may be conſidered by ſome, that have more underſtanding in the works of nature than ourſelves.

THERE were at a town, with us called *Killingsworth*, divers perſons taken with a violent purging, very like to die. In their diſtreſs they voided ſtrange worms, worms that had legs, and were like caterpillars, not paſt an inch long. When the worms (of which no perſon, though in extreme danger of death, had above one) came away, the ſick became immediately well.

WHEN the ſmall-pox was very rife, and raging, and mortal too among us, I was put a little upon the conſideration of that diſeaſe's cauſe. And I ſhall be ſo impertinent, as to acquaint your honour, that I never could be ſatisfied with the account, which the excellent *Riverius*, Sir *Kenelm Digby*, and ſome others give. For there are many, of which it may be queſtioned, whether they had any crude menſtrual blood remaining in them (for when new-born they bled ſo at the navel, that they almoſt bled to death) who yet would have that diſtemper ſorely enough. And on the other hand, there are many never ſuffered to bleed at the navel at all, who yet would attend on the ſick, yea lie with them, and for all eſcape the ſickneſs. As further matter of conſideration here, I ſhall mention a couple of paſſages, which in *Boſton* I took notice of. One woman with child was taken with the ſmall-pox, and about the fourth or fifth day fell in travail, and was delivered of a child which had no ſign of the pox about it, yea, wholly eſcaped it. Another woman, that never had felt the mentioned diſeaſe, fell in travail, and brought forth a child full of them, the mother remaining clear.

HONOURABLE Sir, I have read of a great man, a prince, that, when his ſubjects brought every man his preſent to him, one poor man, that had nothing elſe, filled his hands with a little water, kennel water too, and made a preſent of that; yea, a preſent, that the perſon to whom it was offered looked with a very grateful eye upon. I can parallel theſe rude and imperfect communications to your honour from myſelf unto nothing elſe. Sir, be pleaſed to accept, and I have enough.

I PRAY to the God of heaven, that he would continue ſuch a bleſſing unto mankind, as your honour's life and health; and I take leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Honourable Sir,

your unworthy, but obliged ſervant,

WILL. AVERY.

Honourable SIR, *Boſton, New England, May* 1, 1684.

YOUR kind letter (of *Oct.* 16, 1682.) with the uſeful book that accompanied it, coming to my hands, have laid me under deep obligations, which I cannot otherwiſe expreſs, than by praying to the great God, that he would fully recompenſe all your labour of love towards one ſo undeſerving as myſelf. But I muſt with ſome confuſion reflect on my own impetuoſity and importunity, for your honour's directions, diſcovered in ſome lines written ſince the date of the newly mentioned favour, that I have received from yourſelf; and as I hope, that your candour will excuſe my rudeneſs, ſo I likewiſe hope, that I ſhall never abuſe your charity.

SIR, I did on the occaſion of your letter, ſend my acknowledgments to be delivered by the worſhipful Mr. *Dudley* unto yourſelf; but his ſudden coming away from *England* will, I ſuppoſe, cauſe the return thereof to *New England* again; and a late fit of long ſickneſs hath made it thus long, *&c.* I renew the teſtimonies of my gratitude unto your honour; neither have I been willing to venture things of this nature by any but a truſty hand.

SIR, my greateſt ambition, when I firſt ſought after the liquor alkaheſt, was, that I might attain the arcanum corallinum, and be able to prepare the ſtone ludus; but often revolving *Helmont*'s Duelech, *&c.* I have been induced to think, that if this were once attained, we might alſo ſoon get the mercurius diaphoreticus, or horizontal gold. It would be an impertinence in me to acquaint your honour with the proceſs, that I have conceived of it, only this much; my thoughts have been, that the ☿ of *Joannes de Vigo* is to be prepared with his Æ, and the fire or ♃ of ♀ out of the colcothar of *Hungarian* ☉ ſtrongly calcined and dulcified; and being dried, the liquor muſt ſo often be diſtilled from it, till it all come over in the form of a green oil, then digeſt, *&c. Helmont*, page 891, and 987. *Starkye*'s Pyrot. p. 32, 33. The ☿ being ſeparated from the green oil, the oil digeſted a month with ☽, then ſeparate the tincture from the ſalt with ☿, with this ♃ tincture, or ♃, the pulv of *Jo. de Vigo* is to be impregnated, as much as it will then drink up; cohobate it then with ℞, and next with ☿ to dulcify it. Wherein I may miſs it, I beg your honour's information; as alſo concerning the ℞ that *Helmont* ſpeaks of, whether it be the common, or the liquor alkaheſt; and what doſe is to be given of it; and how much of the ♃ of ♀ is to be put upon ℥j of the powder?

BUT truly, Sir, partly through illneſs, and partly through ignorance, I am not an adeptiſt yet.

WE took our digeſted, our putrified matter, and in a large iron pot evaporated it, till it would (after the firſt ſpirit and phlegm) yield a ſecond ſpirit, ſharp and ſtrong: we then put it into a cucurbite with an head, and in a ſound furnace cohobated it ſeveral times. When it was cohobated eight or ten times the ſpirit was turned into an inſipid phlegm. But we went on with our cohobations forty times, to ſee whether it would make any alteration. Finding none, we put it into a retort together with the phlegm, and by degrees of fire diſtilled off the phlegm, and changed the receiver.

Then

Then came over a white ſpirit pretty ſalt; after that came over another ſalt cleaving to the ſides of the receiver, as alſo a yellow fatty matter, which ſunk to the bottom of a little dirty ſpirit that came over with it (as we had it in ſome former trials) leaving much fixed ſalt in the caput mortuum. *Helmont* in his Duelech, ch. iii. ſays, that he putrified—in an horſe—belly; and then renewed his diſtillation, and cohobated four times according to *Paracelſus*'s preſcription, and left very little fixed ſalt in the caput mortuum; which diſeaſe of his I have always taken to be of the liquor, becauſe he ſays, when the ſecond ſpirit comes, rejoice!—Then learn to diſſolve the ſtone ludus! I have more matter in digeſtion in large glaſſes, in horſe-dung, with a purpoſe, if the Lord pleaſe, to make further trials. I am ſtill at uncertainties, and therefore do thus addreſs your honour!

SIR, I remember, that *Starkey* (in Pyrotech) gives a very high encomium of the ens of ♀ for the cure of fevers, ſaying, it is prepared out of the dulcified colcothar of ♂ with the volatile ſalt of [·] bereaved of its fætor, naming *Helmont* in his tract Butler. I have therefore, as I could underſtand *Helmont*, taken the reſiding ſalt out of the [·..] of ſea-ſalt, with warm water, and evaporated in part, adding thereto the volatile ſalt, and therewith impregnating the colcothar; which being gently dried, I have often repeated the imbibition. We have a ſublimation that is of ſome uſe, but not ſuch as anſwers deſires. *Helmont* ſays, it was ordained of God for the relief of the poor; and if the Moſt High ſhall incline your honour to inſtruct me further in this alſo, I purpoſe, that the poor ſhall freely have the comfort of it.

SIR, there hath been great report concerning the balm of *Gilead*; and I have been careful both to ſee it, and to read the paper concerning it. Doubtleſs it was a forgetfulneſs in the gentleman to ſay, that this was one of the preſents made to *Solomon* by the queen of *Sheba*, as may be collected from *Gen.* xxxvii. 25. and xliii. 11. And though the word there called balm, may be underſtood of ſome other gum, yet might it alſo be the balm for ought that appears to the contrary. But I fear, that what is now ſold, is another thing; and therefore I have ſent you a little matter much like it, for trial's ſake. It comes out of the fir-trees in the ſpring time, in little bliſters. Perhaps it may be fitly called liquid frankincenſe; its long keeping alſo may have ſomewhat thickened it.

AND now I am objecting, the learned Dr. *Willis* I would be ſo bold as a little to animadvert upon.

HE treating of the ſcurvy, ſays, that it is much of a fixed ſalt gathered in the blood, that makes it ſo thick and black; whereas I have obſerved, that if a fixed ſalt be put into warm blood, it makes it of a more freſh and lively colour, and much more thin and fluid. He ſays too, that wine contracting a fixed ſalt grows ſour, and becomes vinegar; whereas a fixed ſalt keeps wine or beer from being ſour, eſpecially lixivial ſalts, that are the moſt fixed do abate much, if not take away the ſharpneſs of vinegar.

SIR, I had lately ſent me a paper incloſed in a letter from a reverend perſon, that relates to the ſickneſs and death of a woman, together with ſomething very remarkable, which I have intreated my worthy friend Mr. *Thomas Brattle*, to preſent unto your honour, with one of the coagulums therein ſpoken of.

I DID ſend to your honour laſt year divers ſorts of marchaſites and minerals, and letters concerning them; but I cannot tell, whether any of them ever came to your ſight. And I now intreat your honour to accept of a ſmall book, referring to remarkable providences that have happened, eſpecially among ourſelves, in the peruſing whereof I hope yourſelf will meet with ſomething that may be not ungrateful.

HAVING

HAVING thus far treſpaſſed, I do with hearty prayers for your honour's health take leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Honourable Sir, your much obliged ſervant,

WILLIAM AVERY.

POSTSCRIPT.

Honourable SIR,

I THOUGHT it convenient to take this opportunity, further to be ſo rude in my addreſſes to your honour, as to requeſt, that ſince I have a ſon of my own about thirty years of age, a perſon of good repute, and a practitioner in phyſic, and an aſſiduous labourer at the chemical fire, I might have your honour's leave to let him, under due obligations, know what things your honour favours me with the imparting of; the grant of which liberty will be an additional kindneſs to,

SIR, your devoted ſervant,

W. AVERY.

Letters from Mr. WILLIAM MAINSTON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *London, Eſſex-ſtreet,* at the two *Golden Falcons, Dec.* 19, 1682.

MY due ſenſe of the great honour, you were lately pleaſed to vouchſafe me, commands not only my preſent acknowledgment, but inſinuates a perpetual obligation; which I ſhall ever be ambitious to teſtify, whenſoever my kind fates or your noble commands may capacitate and animate me by a ſuitable opportunity. In hopes alſo of a ſhort vacation for the conſummation of my *Malayan* grammar, I humbly beg the return of that impoliſhed ſpecimen; which, when plenarily tranſcribed, ſhall repreſume to implore your gracious cenſure for itſelf, and,

SIR, your honour's moſt obliged
and faithful ſervant,

WM. MAINSTON.

SIR, *London, Bell-Savage-yard,* on *Ludgate-hill, May* 15, 1683.

TO your honour's hands, as the great patron of languages and arts, this impolite grammatical tract of the *Malayan* dialect preſumeth to make its ſubmiſſive addreſſes, and to ſtand the fate of your judicious and impartial cenſure; who have judgment enough to correct any faults, and goodneſs enough to pardon all; nor dares this pigmy, without ſuch aſſurance, attempt a public expoſal in this critical, humourous, and fanciful age. The ſucceſs of this previous manual will much contribute to the animation or abortion of my impregnate intentions for a *Malayan* dictionary, and the tranſlation of the ſacred Evangely, *&c.* into thoſe Oriental idioms. But ſince it is your honour's countenance and favour only, that can give life and being to this, or them, I humbly ſubmit it to ſeek its happy or unhappy fortune from your doom, as deeming my ambition gratified, if I may attain a gracious admittance into the catalogue as,

SIR, your honour's moſt humbly devoted
and faithful ſervant,

WM. MAINSTON.

Mr.

Mr. WILLIAM HUSSEY *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *May* 8, *Saturday* 11 o'clock morning.

I MOST humbly pay my thankful acknowledgments for ſeveral favours, in particular to myſelf, and relatively to Dr. *Huntington*, for ſome *Grotius's* in *Arabic* lately, which the bookſellers could not furniſh. I have a letter from the doctor, *April* 28, at *Dublin*, deſiring the *Iriſh* preface to the *Iriſh* Bible, without which he cannot bind them up. I know no where elſe to addreſs; and therefore moſt humbly beg your commands to ſome ſervant, to acquaint me by the penny poſt, whether it be finiſhed, and whether your favour will extend to furniſh him, and what you ſend ſhall be immediately tranſmitted to him. Honourable Sir, I beg pardon for the preſumption, and wherein I can be accountable for the trouble. I am with all humility,

Your lordſhip's moſt devoted ſervant,

WILLIAM HUSSEY.

A LETTER directed to me *W. H.* merchant, in *Mark Lane*, will not fail to find me.

Letters from the biſhop of Corke *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *June* 12, 1683.

COMPUTING with myſelf, that there is a week expired ſince I wearied you (as I may preſume) with my impertinent company, I begin to hope by this time you have recovered the fatigue: and though I cannot yet afford to reform being troubleſome to you, becauſe I ſhould then miſs of the valuable benefit I propounded to myſelf by acceſs to you, yet I will as much as may be ſhorten your trouble. I therefore humbly deſire you will be pleaſed to-morrow, about ten of the clock, when I ſhall wait on you, to order ſome ſervant of yours to ſhew me your laboratory. By this means you will give me a great ſatisfaction, and eaſe yourſelf of a many pitiful queſtions, that would be aſked of you by,

SIR,

your very affectionate honourer,

and humbleſt ſervant,

E. CORKE ROSSE.

Honoured SIR, *Corke, March* 22, 1687-8.

I CANNOT but retain a very pleaſing memory, and make ſweet reflections on that ſhort and little converſation I had with you while in *England*, in the year 83. And I had ſooner paid my acknowledgments, but that partly I did not well know how to direct to you, and partly did not think the mere compliment of a perſon ſo unſerviceable to you as myſelf worth the poſtage: but meeting with this fair advantage, I would no longer forbear to give it you under my hand, that I can ſcarce recollect any time, which I now account better ſpent, while I was in *London*, than that which I employed in viſiting you. Nor can I forget ſome perſons, who had been formerly only retainers to you, from whom I learned divers excellent ſecrets. But it is ſad now to conſider, that our condition here, at the ends of the earth, is ſuch, that all thoſe gay thoughts are ſcattered; and inſtead of improving knowledge, we think of (whether we will or no) how long and by what means our throats may be ſecured;

ſecured; or rather we commit all to God, for we can imagine no ſecurity (as things go with us) but by his almighty hand.

I MUST break off; I have ſtumbled on this ſubject. I intended other things when I began: but it is hard not to bewray a ſenſe of that, which pinches often and ſeverely, only I ought not to have done it to you, who I am ſure pity, but I fear cannot help. Some caſes are beyond the power of art. If this lady ſtay till to-morrow at eight of the clock, God willing, I will write more comfortably. If not, be pleaſed to accept of an attempt of gratitude, blaſted by penſive and uneaſy thoughts invading,

SIR,

your very affectionate ſervant,

E. CORKE ROSSE.

Letters from Dr. ROBERT HUNTINGTON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Dublin, Jan.* 12, 1683.

WE are now, after a long, ſmart, and unuſual froſt, falling into our old *Iriſh* weather again: and it is the moiſture and fogginess of the air, which I more dread than any thing elſe in the country, though, God be thanked, I have not been quite ſick ſince I came; nor am yet diſſolved or broken to pieces upon the thaw. But give me leave, Sir, to aſk you, who ſo well underſtand all philoſophy, whether the mind of man muſt not ſuffer by ſuch heavy preſſures upon his body? And really I have all along been ſenſible of ſo much native dulneſs and ſtupidity, that I need not improve it by acquiring more. If the receipt you were pleaſed to give me, will heal that diſeaſe, or prevent any farther infection, I ſhall then adventure upon uſquebaugh. If the *Dublin* Society for the improvement of real knowledge could but follow (though at a mannerly diſtance) as they endeavour to imitate the Royal Society of *London*, I would then hope to breathe, even in *Ireland*, a better air. And here let me tell you (which perhaps is news) that there is ſuch a company aſſociated; and that they would be extremely proud of your directions and encouragement. You know ſome of the number, the biſhop of *Fernes* and *Leighlin* (who now ſends concerning the *Iriſh* Bible) Sir *William Petty*, Dr. *Willoughby*, and Dr. *Malin:* the latter has been long abſent, being ſent for a great way off, to cure ſeveral perſons tormented with the gout; and upon this account perhaps it is, that he writes not to you. But I treſpaſs more, I fear, the other way: and therefore begging your pardon for my many and bold addreſſes, I commit you to the divine protection, and remain,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

ROBERT HUNTINGTON.

SIR, *Jan.* 24, 1684-5.

I WAS lately ſpoken to by virtue of a commiſſion from yourſelf, concerning the *Iriſh* tranſlation; whether the emendations of Mr. *Rely* were properly ſuch. To this I had returned an anſwer upon the firſt receipt of the proof, and told the judgment of ſome here very well verſed in the ſaid language, who approve it as well done. But now, ſince you require new information, I have lodged it in the hands of the biſhop of *Meath*, who promiſes me the opinion of a miniſter in his dioceſe, and as impartial

impartial an account as any *Romaniſt* can be ſuppoſed to give us. As ſoon as I receive it, it ſhall be ſent with all due care and reſpect by,

SIR,

your moſt obedient ſervant,

ROBERT HUNTINGTON.

SIR, *Feb.* 21, 1684-5.

WHEN I laſt anſwered your enquiry concerning the approbation of your corrector's amendments, I intimated, that the biſhop of *Meath* had particularly recommended it to the peruſal of one of his clergy, who generally allows it, and has drawn the incloſed ſcheme of what he thinks would be but in the proof you were pleaſed to ſend: and herein, if it were worth the while, you might take Mr. *Rely*'s judgment of him, as you have his of Mr. *Rely*. The tranſlation was made ſome time ſince; and conſequently there may be ſome variation in the language by this time, though very little comparatively to what is found in the neighbouring tongues, who write and print ſo much, and expreſsly for the improvement of their languages; which I never expect ſhould be done in the behalf of *Iriſh*. May the inhabitants make uſe of thoſe books, which with ſo much piety and expence you procure for them! and it is the beſt employment the tongue can be put to. As for their legends, both ſacred and civil, the fabulous lives of ſaints, and the rhodomontados of hiſtory, if they are no better than father *Creſſy* and father *Walſh* affords us, I ſhall hardly think it worth the while to learn *Iriſh*, that I may read them.

SIR, it is the opportunity I met with to convey the incloſed, which has occaſioned you this preſent trouble from

Your moſt humble ſervant,

ROBERT HUNTINGTON.

SIR, *March* 24, 1684-5.

I PERCEIVE you reſolve to engroſs the honour of a gallant work wholly to yourſelf; and may the ſucceſs be as great as the undertaking! If our liturgy were likewiſe tranſlated, we ſhould wholly remove from ourſelves, what we charge the *Romaniſts* withal, the locking up of our religion in an unknown tongue, and perhaps invite thoſe, who are fond enough of their language, to underſtand our devotion. Now, Sir, whether againſt the accompliſhment of ſuch a laudable deſign, you may not think it conducive, as the pſalms are printing off, to print ſome ſupernumerary hundreds of copies in a leſſer volume, before the letters are diſtributed; which may upon occaſion be appended to the common-prayer book? Or if it ſhould ſo happen, that this be not quickly done in *Iriſh*, yet is the pſalter of itſelf a pretty manual, and moſt fit for beginners.

How far the public will intereſt themſelves in the encouragement hereof by any ſolemn act, I cannot determine. And by reaſon of the late alterations in our government, it may not be ſo ſeaſonable at preſent to urge it. As opportunities ſhall offer, I have deſired ſome of better credit to manage the affair, and accordingly you ſhall receive information from,

Noble Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant,

ROBERT HUNTINGTON.

SIR, *March* 20, 1685-6.

THE fifty copies of your *Iriſh* Bible arrived but lately; the preface and title page are not yet arrived, though I have heard of them: and till thoſe come, I ſhall defer the preſents you are pleaſed to make, becauſe they will otherwiſe want a viſible part of their ornament. In the mean time, and the firſt that was bound, I carried to my lord lieutenant, and begged his encouragement of ſo good a work; which he readily promiſed, both for its own ſake, and for yours, that the nation may know at preſent, and the generations to come, how much they ſtand indebted to ſuch a noble benefactor.

I HAVE them very well bound in calf's ſkin for fifteen pence a piece, beſides the ſaving of a great cuſtom: ſo that if there ſhall be any occaſion for more, it will ſtill be the beſt way to ſend them in ſheets. We are not under ſuch circumſtances, as may encourage me to believe the *Iriſh* will be very fond of this tranſlation: however, it muſt be known you have done more for them than all their prieſts ever did; and the reaſon is plain, becauſe your deſign and theirs is mighty different, you intending nothing elſe but to make them knowing and wiſe unto ſalvation. I am, Sir, with all imaginable reſpect,

Your humble and obedient ſervant,

ROB. HUNTINGTON.

Letters from Sir JAMES TYRRELL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Okely, Jan.* 23, 1684-5.

I MUST beg your pardon, if the ſeverity of the ſeaſon, and ſome other employments of the workman have hindered him from digging, and me from ſending thoſe clays you deſired, till now by this bearer. I ſuppoſe theſe are all you deſired, or the place affords, *viz.* the blue, red, and white, and that the laſt is the ſame you meant; and if it ſhould not prove ſo upon trial, I ſhould be ſorry, becauſe the old potter (who I ſuppoſe is the ſame that ſhewed it you) does not know of any other: there is about ſix or ſeven pound of a ſort, and if you deſire more you may freely command it upon the leaſt notice. I muſt likewiſe aſk your pardon, if the illneſs of the weather, and ſhortneſs of the days, have deterred me as yet from experimenting the weight of the atmoſphere, with a tube inſerted into a vial of water; but when the weather and ways prove more favourable, I will not fail to mount the neighbouring hill I told you of; and having tried it, will let you know the ſucceſs, either by letter, or when I have next the honour of waiting on you. In the mean time I have nothing more of natural productions to acquaint you with hereabouts; but that I have raiſing in my land a very ſtrong vitriolic water, which is good for fiſtulas, and ulcerous ſores. A chemiſt of my acquaintance at *Oxford* has tried ſome of it; and finds a great quantity of white vitriol may be extracted out of it; if you pleaſe to command any of it, I ſhall ſend you up what proportion you pleaſe when the weather is drier, it being now too much diluted with the rain water. So with many thanks for your liquid phoſphorus, but above all for the happineſs of your moſt excellent converſation when I was in town, I remain,

SIR,

your moſt humble,

and faithful ſervant,

JAMES TYRRELL.

IF

If you have any occasion to lay any further commands upon me, you may direct your letter to be left with *Robert Clarke*, under-butler of *Queen's College*.

SIR, *June* 22,

FEARING a sudden alteration of the weather from dry to moist, I have now sent you a large bottle of my vitriolic water (as you desired) whilst it is in its full strength before it be diluted with the rain. I desire your operator would diligently examine two particulars concerning this water; the one, whether it be at all arsenical: for some poor people hereabouts take it, and it makes them both vomit and purge exceedingly; and if there be no arsenic in it, it may prove a very good and safe vomit for the poor: the other is, whether or no there may not be extracted out of it a white salt of vitriol, which might be made with less trouble and charge than that, which the chemists usually prepare: and I myself have taken it for a vomit more than once with good success. The dry leaves, and banks about this pool, betray a great deal of this white vitriolate salt; for it now sticks upon them concreted in a pretty good quantity, as I could shew you, but that I fear it would rub off in a paper; and it were not worth while to send you any in a box, unless you particularly desire it. I have likewise sent you some few notes upon your titles of the air, which you were pleased to trust me with; in which I do not pretend to give you any thing you do not know already concerning the air in general: and therefore I do rather confine myself and some particular observations I have made concerning the air and weather hereabouts; which I suppose may hold true of all other places of like situation. And if I can tell you nothing new on this subject, yet it would be a great satisfaction to me to have thought the same way with so great a genius in natural things, as I should be much prouder, if there be any thing, which may seem useful to you in the prosecution of this noble design you are now upon; in which, as in all other endeavours for promoting of useful knowledge, none can wish you better success than,

SIR,

your most humble servant,

J. TYRRELL.

If you please to lay by your observations concerning this water till towards winter, that I come to town, it may serve; or else if you have any thing further to command me, you may direct your letter to me at *Okely* in *Bucks*, to be left with *Robert Clarke*, under-butler of *Queen's College*, *Oxon*. I return you many thanks for your excellent treatise, which I have perused with great satisfaction.

SIR, *Okely*, *May* 25, 1687.

IN obedience to your commands, I have here sent you that part of Mr. *Locke*'s letter, which relates to his opinion concerning Mr. *Burnet*'s new Theory of the Earth, which I hope will answer your expectation: and since you have been pleased to give me encouragement to hold correspondence with you concerning natural things, and particularly of the air, I shall make bold to remark (if you have not already observed it) that the great wind on the late stormy *Friday* did not only break down the arms of divers great trees, but also blighted and burnt up the leaves of the trees, and blades of corn in divers places; from whence I observed, that those pestiferous particles, which we call blights, are not only brought upon us by gentle east or south-east winds, but also sometimes with a western wind, and stormy weather, as this then was. Nor have I any thing else to add concerning this subject, only that this day is

alſo very ſtormy weather, often intermixed with ſhowers of rain, ſo that my barometer ſtands now at near about two degrees above much rain, which I beſeech God to grant us, for we have great need of it in the country. I have procured ſome rotten wood, as you deſired, but have deferred to ſend it, becauſe I cannot find that any of it does ſhine in the dark, which I know is the only thing you deſire it for. I cannot tell where the fault lies, whether in the ſort of wood (they being only crab-tree and ſallow) or elſe in the drineſs of the ſeaſon; but if you pleaſe to command it as it is, and will let me know your pleaſure in a line or two directed to me at *Okely*, near *Brill* in *Bucks*, to be left with *Robert Clarke*, under-butler of *Queen's College*, *Oxon*, your commands in that, as in all other things, ſhall be exactly obeyed by,

SIR,

your moſt faithful,
and humble ſervant,
JA. TYRRELL.

MY mother is well, and is much my lady *Ranelagh*'s and your humble ſervant.

Mr. *Locke*'s is as follows.

[THE *New Theory of the Earth* I have read in *Engliſh*, and cannot but like the ſtyle and way of writing upon thoughts wholly a man's own; but ſince you deſire my opinion, as to the treatiſe itſelf, though it be a good while ſince I read it, and that but curſorily; yet there ſticks with me ſtill ſome of thoſe objections, which roſe in my way as I peruſed it, and which offered themſelves againſt the truth or probability of his hypotheſis, which made me not able then to reconcile it either to philoſophy, ſcripture, or itſelf. In the firſt part (as I remember) he makes the globe of the earth round, both by its ſchemes and hypotheſis of its formation; and in the ſecond part oval, without giving (as I remember) any reaſon for it. He makes the circulation of the water to be drawn up by the ſun as now, but all the clouds to go and empty themſelves at the poles only. How he makes out the phyſical reaſon of this motion, I do not well remember, but this I am ſure of, by this means there could be no rivers; for all the water, that ſhould fall in thoſe parts he deſigns for it, muſt needs in that ſtate he puts the world in (the ſun being conſtantly in the equator) muſt needs have fallen frozen, and ſo remained in mountains of ſnow. But granting water, though without a ſea, where lived the whales mentioned in the creation? But that which ſeems to be the principle of his deſign, to make out (*viz.*) the hiſtory of the flood, is that methinks, which he hath leaſt ſucceeded in: for when this cruſt of earth broke, what hindered the broken pieces from ſinking down into the abyſs, and ſo being quite loſt under water? And if the middle of the world, which lay under the ſun, was that which firſt failed, how comes it, that we find ſo much of the torrid zone above water? But if we may judge by the *Andes* (one of the higheſt and longeſt tracts of hills in the world) the crack (if there were any) ſeems to run the other way: but that which ſeems moſt incomprehenſible of all is, how the water, that is now in the world, and was in his account no more then, could cover the tops of the higheſt hills, and remain above them ſo long a time as *Moſes* mentions; for the flaſhing of it, upon the falling in of the earth, (which is the cauſe he aſſigns) will be found (if conſidered) impoſſible to raiſe them ſo high, much leſs to continue them there ſo long. I imagine, if I ſhould trouble you with my fancies, I could give you an hypotheſis would explain the deluge without half the difficulties, which ſeem to

me to cumber this; but though I tell you, that I am not convinced of his doctrine, and have here ſent you ſome of thoſe doubts, which I had in reading of him, which is now almoſt two years ago; yet I muſt alſo aſſure you, that there are ſome chapters in him, that I cannot enough value, and the book is to be eſteemed were it for thoſe only.]

SIR, I doubt not of your prudence in communicating theſe obſervations without naming the author, ſince I would not have done ſo much without his order, for any but a perſon, for whom I know he has ſo high a reſpect.

Letters from Mr. JA. DALRYMPLE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Right Honourable, *Leyden, October* 29, 1685.

I HAVE ſent you herewith a treatiſe dedicated to the Royal Society. The meditation of the wonderful work of God in the ſtupendous contrivance of the inſcient powers of nature, hath been the delightful diverſion of my mind for many years. I have been a great admirer of your piety and your parts, ſince I firſt had the honour of a little acquaintance by the mediation of your excellent friend and mine, Sir *Robert Moray*. I have therefore made bold to trouble you to preſent it to your Society, whereof I wiſh to have the honour to be a member. If you find ground upon peruſal, recommend it to your friends and to ſtationers, and let me by a line know your thoughts of it: you may deliver your letter to the bearer, who will convey it to,

SIR, your moſt affectionate,
and moſt humble ſervant,
JA. DALRYMPLE.

Right Honourable, *Leyden, March* 2, 1686.

I DID in *December* laſt ſend a philoſophical treatiſe dedicated to the Royal Society, and I wrote a line with it: but the gentleman, to whom I intruſted it (upon miſtake being taken for another perſon by the waiters at *Harwich*, who was ordered to be ſeized) was apprehended, and that book, and ſome others ſent to other friends were taken from him, and put in the Cuſtom-houſe at *London*. The gentleman fell ſick, and I heard no more what became of the book or your letter. I was the more confident to preſent it to you, and thereby to the Society, that I have the honour of a little acquaintance of you by your friend and mine Sir *Robert Moray*; and beſide I have ever had a high eſteem of you, and have made much uſe of your experiments; and have not neglected on all occaſions to mention it with that honour, that you do eminently deſerve of the learned world. There is a parcel of them ſent to be ſold at *London*; they have met with good acceptance elſewhere. I ſhall think myſelf happy, if my thoughts fall to quadrate in any meaſure with yours; and the approbation or ſatisfaction of that learned and noble Society will be a great encouragement to me, to proceed in the more ſpecial parts of natural philoſophy, which hath been long the delightful recreation, and now in my retirement the main exerciſe of,

SIR,
your moſt affectionate friend,
and humble ſervant,
JA. DALRYMPLE.

Letters

Letters from the countess of WARWICKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

My dearest, dearest Brother,

I AM extremely sensible, that so obliging a favour, as your giving me a visit at *Lees*, deserves an acknowledgment; but which way to express my sense of it I know not; but I am confident, you are too well acquainted with my dulness to expect I should do it handsomely, at a time when I am most pleased and composed; and therefore will not, I hope, do it now, that I have so just a cause of disorder, as so lately parting with a brother, for whom I have so great an affection, that the losing your company is so sensible an affliction to me, that if I were not comforted with your promise of returning to *Lees*, I know not what would become of

Your affectionate sister,
and most humble servant,
M. WARWICKE.

CHARLES is your servant, and all the young ladies, but especially your mistress, who had two fits the day you left *Lees*. Pray present this letter to my fair friend my lady *Roberts*.

My dearest, dearest Squire,

WHEN I hear from you, it brings me too great a joy not to tell it. Really, my dear squire, I must confess myself to be guilty of so much self-love, as to read of your being pleased at *Oxford* with some regret, because I am so much my own friend, as to desire with great impatience the satisfaction of seeing you here, the hopes of which, I may with a great deal of truth say, was the greatest motive I could use to myself, to persuade me to be willing to leave the sweet quiet of the country, for the horrid confusion of the town, in which, now my dear sister *Ranelagh* and you are out of it, I have very little to please me in it, though we are like to be very great, for the lad is like to be a successful lover. My lady *Devonshire* is, God be thanked, like to recover. I envy the countess, who will be so happy as to see you, and desire, when you are together, you will wish with you,

My dear squire,
your affectionate humble servant,
M. RICH.

MR. *Rich* is your servant, and my lady *Warwicke* presents her service to you: my service to my nephew, and pray tell *Dick Jones*, that though I writ a letter to him, I never heard a word from him.

My dearest, dearest Brother, *Lees, July* 30.

MY being last week engaged in a visit to my lady *Barrington*'s, made me too weary, when I returned from it, to write that night by *Bellchamp*, and to tell my dear squire, how much I was really troubled to find my sister return without you; for though I must confess, that I was not without some fears, that you would not come, yet I had entertained such hopes of it, as made it very uneasy to find myself defeated in that, which was so really conducive to my happiness, as your company was; but I was much more struck, when my sister informed me, that your not being well was the reason that kept you from me, and truly was very impatient till the next return

to hear how you did, for there is no creature living has a greater deſire for your health and happineſs. This I muſt beg you to do me the juſtice to believe, and to ſtill continue your kindneſs to her, who has as great a one as is poſſible for you, being with all the ſincerity imaginable,

My deareſt brother,

your moſt affectionate ſiſter,

and humble ſervant,

M. WARWICKE.

My lord and the young ladies are your ſervants.

My deareſt, deareſt Brother, *Lees, Dec.* 29.

MY lord privy ſeal, as ſoon as he came in hither, told me, (I think to be ſure of being welcome, the good news) that you would be here this *Chriſtmas*, which was ſo pleaſing to me, that I was thinking with great delight upon that happineſs I hoped ſo ſoon to be poſſeſſed of, when a letter from you was brought me, that I opened with great haſte, hoping to find a promiſe under your own hand of ſpeedy coming: but alas! to my great grief, I found all my expectations daſhed, by your telling me, that your occaſions would not permit you to ſatisfy my longing expectation to ſee you. But my dear ſquire, I hope, and do comfort myſelf what I can with the hopes, that though you could not at this time, yet you will ſuddenly diſpatch all your affairs, that you may come to *Lees* to ſtay ſome time with me; and to encourage you to this, I will aſſure you, that you ſhall be abſolute maſter of your own time, and that no interruption ſhall be given you by,

My deareſt brother,

your affectionate ſiſter,

and moſt humble ſervant,

M. WARWICKE.

I HAVE told my fair friend what you ſaid in your letter to her; but I find her ſo kind to you, that for fear of making you too proud, and her lord too jealous, I will not repeat what kind things ſhe ſays of you. I thank you for my book; I am much pleaſed with what you have added to it; and am very glad my old friend *Tom Murray*'s letter was the cauſe of it. I am confident his letter was worth ſeeing.

Letter from the counteſs of CORKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

My dear Brother, *Liſmore, June* 26.

THOUGH I confeſs I have been a great while ſilent, I ſhall not fear you will conclude me faulty, but rather civil in that forbearance, ſince all that was neceſſary or worthy your knowledge, I know you received weekly by better hands from this place. To trouble you then to anſwer my inſignificant letters, I doubted would be a burthen your civility would impoſe upon yourſelf, and this has been hitherto the true ground of my ſilence. What is now the preſent motive of my writing is, to beg your opinion of your nephews paſſing their times, and whether they improve them to their moſt advantage, where, in the firſt place, it is moſt neceſſary they be well grounded in piety, which is the chief bulwark to preſerve them from thoſe temptations their age, condition, and converſation (too general in the world) is likely

to

to assault them withal, especially in their travels, to which my lord before long designs them. And therefore I humbly beg you would make choice of some good books and recommend them to their perusals, and to the doctor to supervise and clear, what may seem obscure to them in that study, to which all their other studies ought to strike sail, and to that chiefly intend; in order to which, I know nothing more probable to persuade them, than your good precepts seconded with your example and practice. This shall be the chief intent of this letter, though I could much enlarge it with resentments of my near approaching unhappiness in parting with my dearest sister, did I not consider, that this deprivation restores to you a happiness I must not grudge you, but study rather the means to hasten over to be a sharer in your mutual satisfactions, till when my complaints must keep home; and I shall only here trouble you with the insignificant, yet very sincere and hearty professions of my ever remaining,

Dear brother,

your most affectionate, faithful,

and obliged servant,

E. CORKE.

I BEG you to present my service to Dr. *Willis*, when you see him.

Letter of Mr. CHARLES BOYLE, *afterwards earl of* Orrery, *to Mr.* R. BOYLE.

SIR, *July* 31.

I WOULD have paid my respects to you before now, but I have not long been settled here in *Oxford*. I am at *Christ Church* under the care of Dr. *Aldrich*, who is dean of the college, an extraordinary man, a great scholar, and of a very good temper. I do do not question but I shall get what I aim at here, which is a competent stock of learning and good sense: I will do my endeavour. I hope you will pardon this rudeness in troubling you with this my impertinence, for I thought it my duty to show you, that I am,

SIR,

your obedient nephew and servant,

CHARLES BOYLE.

I MUST trouble you with my duty to my aunt *Ranelagh*.

The lady CLANCARTIE *to Mr.* RO. BOYLE.

Dear Uncle, *Nov.* 19.

IF it it had been possible for any thing to have made an addition to the great proportion of sorrow, your letter found me under for the greatest of causes, it would have been to find thereby, that you were indisposed. But I hope your indisposition of body will not be of so long continuance as mine of mind will, God having pleased to lay me under a severe exercise of my patience, by taking from me the greatest comfort. And indeed I cannot be just to his memory, without saying he was in all respects qualified to make me and mine happy, and very capable to have served his country and the protestant interest, which I am sure he had real resolutions to have done

done to the utmoſt of his power; and therefore you are very juſt in the opinion you had of him, who had a very great reſentment of the kindneſs you were pleaſed to ſhow him, when he was in *England*, and would often ſpeak with great reverence for your judgment in every thing; and was faithfully your ſervant, and ſo good a man in all reſpects, that I am ſure he is perfectly happy, which is the only thought, that affords any conſolement under the ſad circumſtances of,

Dear uncle,

your moſt obliged humble ſervant,

and affectionate niece,

E. CLANCARTIE.

I BEG my moſt humble ſervice to my aunt *Ranelagh*.

Letters from Dr. BURNET *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, At the *Hague*, *Jan.* 3, [1686, O. S.]

SINCE I know this noble bearer will have the pleaſure of waiting ſometimes on you and on my lady *Ranelagh*, I could not ſatisfy myſelf with charging him to make you both all the expreſſions poſſible of my duty and eſteem for you, which I hope he will perform with that grace, that accompanies him in every thing that he either ſays or does; but I took the liberty to write by him, and ſince I am upon a ſubject that pleaſes me ſo much as Mr. *Cutts* does, I crave leave to tell your ſiſter, that if I durſt ſay it, I am almoſt angry with her, for having known ſo worthy a gentleman without giving me a ſhare of it, ſince I find he has had the honour of being known to her a great many years; but quarrels of this nature do not go very far. I am ſure I ought to have none with you, after you have obliged me by the preſent of your excellent book of nature. No man knows her ſo well as you do, and ſo no man ought to have undertaken her ſo boldly; and indeed you have managed it ſo, as to maintain the noble character of a Chriſtian philoſopher, which I am ſorry is ſo peculiar to yourſelf, ſince moſt of our philoſophers ſeem to forget, that they are Chriſtians. I wiſh you and your incomparable ſiſter a good new year, together with a great many to come after this, that mankind may be ſtill made better and wiſer by your means. I am with as much reſpect and veneration, as I can pay to any mortal,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt humble, and

moſt obedient ſervant,

G. BURNET.

Honourable SIR, *Hague*, *June* 4, [1686.]

THOUGH I have not during ſo long and ſo uneaſy an abſence from a perſon, whoſe converſation was always equally delighting and advantageous to me, taken the liberty to write to you, yet as I have often procured to myſelf the ſatisfaction of hearing concerning you, ſo you will ſee by a bundle of papers, that the bearer brings you, that I had you always in my thoughts; and that therefore I have writ as full an account, as I thought was neceſſary, of every thing that occurred to me in my travels, in five long letters, which you will ſee by the concluſion of the fourth, are addreſſed

dreſſed particularly to yourſelf. I ordered my man to carry them firſt to the dean of *Paul*'s, who, I know, will very ſoon diſpatch them, and then he will bring them to you; and if they give any agreeable entertainment to you or your noble ſiſter, I will attain one of my main ends in writing them. I am extreme ſorry to hear, that my lady *Ranelagh* has of late had ill health; but I hope the ſeaſon of the year will ſet her up again. Her life is ſo important, and has been of late of ſuch uſefulneſs to a great many, who have felt the effects of her univerſal and active charity ſo ſenſibly, that I hope God will yet continue ſo great a bleſſing to an age, that may very ill want ſuch patterns. I give her my moſt humble ſervice in the moſt particular manner that can be imagined. But having condemned you to the reading ſo many ſheets, it were very unjuſt to add a farther impoſition upon your time; therefore I do only beg of you to ſend theſe ſheets, when you have done with them, to my lady *Eſſex*, who is to ſend them to my lady *Ruſſel*, and after they have made a little turn, they will return them back to you, to be diſpoſed of as abſolutely by you as the author of them, who will ever be in a manner beyond expreſſion,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt humble,

moſt obedient, and

moſt obliged ſervant,

G. BURNET.

MR. *de Tournes* of *Geneva*, who reprints all the *Latin* tranſlation of your works, gave me the incloſed memorandum, which I take the liberty to ſend you, for he is a very worthy man.

Mr. BOYLE's *anſwer to Dr.* BURNET's *letter of* June 14, 1686.

SIR,

A GOOD while ſince I received the letter your domeſtic delivered to me: I received a greater favour in that of a roll of excellent papers, that was ſent me a few days ago by the dean of *Paul*'s. They ſhould at any time have been very welcome, but are more ſo by being very ſeaſonable too, to divert, as well as inform me, whilſt my ſiſter is kept in her chamber by the remains of a feveriſh diſtemper, and I am laid up by ſomething, that though ſeemed to be an effect of the ſcurvy, does very much emulate the gout: by which melancholy juncture of circumſtances, ſhe and I, though in the ſame houſe, and neither of us (thanks be to God) confined to a bed, have not ſeen one another theſe four or five days. Though your delightful travels have much alleviated the troubleſomeneſs of a diſtemper, that keeps me from ſtirring, yet they have left me pain enough to keep me from being able to make you thoſe returns for them; I ſay not, that they deſerve, but that in other circumſtances I ſhould not perhaps be uncapable of doing. Your excellent manuſcript making me lay aſide almoſt all printed books, was my entertainment morning, noon, and night, becauſe I found I could travel through your letters, as well with more pleaſure, as with more quietneſs, than you did through the countries ſo judiciouſly deſcribed in them. Having viſited many of thoſe places in my youth, the lively mention you make of them does ſo revive my decayed ideas, that they make me think myſelf young again. I am glad to find, that all men do not travel as moſt do, to obſerve buildings, and gardens, and modes, and other amuſements of a ſuperficial and almoſt inſignificant

inſignificant curioſity: for your judicious remarks and reflections may not a little improve both a ſtateſman, a critic, and a divine, as well as they will make the writer paſs for all three.

* * * * * a work, that may hereafter ſerve for a faithful mirror of the times and places it was written in. As for the diſpoſal of thoſe letters, which you are obligingly pleaſed to leave me, though I be very ſenſible of the favour you do me, yet I cannot think myſelf qualified to accept ſo great a truſt, eſpecially being not ſo well acquainted with your preſent circumſtances abroad as to judge, whether ſome of your friends here have as much reaſon, as I perceive they think they have, to apprehend, that at this time (though not perhaps at another) the publication of theſe curious papers, particularly of your laſt letter, may be almoſt as prejudicial to the author, as grateful to his reader. The compliments and more kind paſſages you are pleaſed to conclude with, I dare no more pretend to anſwer, than deſerve; and therefore think the fitteſt return I can make of them is, not to permit them to make me offer you an intereſted advice: and the beſt uſe I can make of the power you give me is, not ſo much to conſider the benefit of being ſo advantageouſly repreſented by ſuch a pen, as the ſafety and juſt intereſts of a perſon, that has ſo handſomely obliged,

SIR,

your moſt humble, and
moſt affectionate ſervant, *&c.*

THE date will inform you, that this letter was written long ſince; but a *German*, that brought me a compliment from you, by undertaking (without performance) to deliver this paper to you at his return from *Oxford*, has been the occaſion of this delay, which therefore I hope you will eaſily pardon. I ſhewed my ſiſter what you writ of her, and ſhe is very ſenſible of your kindneſs, though ſhe takes exceptions at the complimental part.

Superſcribed,
A monſieur monſieur Burnet in de Hoege, &c.

Biſhop BURNET *to Mr.* BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *Saliſbury, January* 20.

IT was very uneaſy to me to leave the town, without giving myſelf the honour of waiting on you according as you were pleaſed to deſire me; and I firmly intended to do it on *Monday* laſt. But the meſſages betweeen the two Houſes held us ſo late, that I being under engagements to go into *London* that night upon buſineſs, was kept there ſo long, that it was not poſſible for me to get back, before your time of going to bed was paſt. I was the more uneaſy at this, becauſe I knew the affliction that you were under by reaſon of my lady *Burlington*'s condition, of whoſe death I have heard nothing; ſo I conclude, that ſhe muſt be recovered, at which I very much rejoice. I do therefore moſt humbly beg your pardon for not having obeyed thoſe obliging commands, that you were pleaſed to lay upon me, when I ſaw you laſt. It is my inclination, as well as my duty, to delight in being often with the perſon in the world, that I eſteem the moſt, and to whom I ſtand ſo highly engaged; and therefore I hope you will impute my not attending you, to any thing rather than to a ſlowneſs in obeying your commands. But if there is any thing, in

which the opinion of ſo mean a perſon as I am, can add to the ſatisfaction of ſo great a perſon as I know you to be, I will not fail to ſend you a very particular account of my thoughts in any matter, that you may think fit to communicate to me, and will be ſure to loſe no time in it. I pray God to continue you long to be a public bleſſing to the age, which you have hitherto been in all reſpects more than any man I know; which muſt needs engage all that have any regard either to religion or virtue, to pay you a moſt particular eſteem; and as there are not many, who know more of your worth than has fallen to my happy ſhare, ſo I am ſure there is not any one perſon, that honours you with a more profound reſpect than,

Honourable Sir,

your moſt humble,

moſt obedient, and

moſt obliged ſervant,

G. SARUM.

Letters from Mr. BENJAMIN DENHAM *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR,

THOSE courteſies are to be higheſt in eſtimation, which come without a petition, *jus enim precarium fert ſecum obligationem*, ſays the Civilian. If I ſhould reveal my thoughts, that I have of your piety and worth, you would think I flatter, therefore I will be ſilent.

Omnes agens naturale neceſſario operatur; the ſun cannot but diſtribute his beams, and ſo are good men; morality and grace ſo effectually operate in them, that as it were they muſt be courteous and good, and almoſt contradict the maxim, *Omne agens morale eſt liberum & indifferens.*

I HAVE here preſented to your cenſure and reading ſome of my unconcocted notions and inventions; ſome I ſay of many, *multa in paucis*; in one word, I render your honour an hecatomb of thanks for ſpeaking to the lord chancellor; but if on ſome occaſion the biſhop of *Wincheſter*, who recommended me to *Conſtantinople*, had but one word from you, my cares would ceaſe, and then I might ſtudy without diſtraction. The lord biſhop of *Wincheſter* hath now always his lodgings at *Whitehall*, and is conſtantly to be found before and after chapel at noon. Your goodneſs is ſuch, that if I crave pardon, preſently I am forgiven. Your honour knows the ſtory of *David*, confeſſion and abſolution hardly had a moment's difference at leaſt. I will comment ſo at this preſent,

Your honour's moſt affectionate,

and humble ſervant,

BENJAMIN DENHAM.

SIR,

AMONG ſome of mine inventions and enquiries, one was about titles of honour to the clergy; but pray do not think I flatter or lye, if I enquire what title I might contribute to your worth and affable kindneſs, for I have found no perſon ſo diſintereſt in the world's honours and profits as your honoured ſelf, and it was that, which made me ſo deſirous of your acquaintance.

THE world, they ſay, turns round, but I am as the pole, fixed in my condition. I have received my book and your letter, which I did, as the grand viſier doth to his

his emperor's letter, kiſs and adore; and if there be any idolatry, I hope God and you will pardon. I hate popular applauſe, but I have preached in divers places in *London*, and in the duke of *York*'s chapel, but ſtill—*haud facile emergunt*, &c. It is the firſt ſtep and ſecond in nature's philoſophy, that helps the moſt to the progreſs. My lord keeper ſpeaks very kindly; and I would willingly contribute my endeavours to the compoſure of an univerſal catechiſm in ſuch principles, in which all the Chriſtians do agree; and Dr. *Pocock* will inform you, that if it were made in *Italian*, *Latin*, vulgar grammatical *Greek* and *Turkiſh*, it would at leaſt confirm the poor *Greeks* in Chriſtianity, if not convert the *Turks* and barbarous. I render you thanks for thoſe divine benefits, that I have received from your divine book of occaſional Meditations. I have an honeſt accuſation againſt your honour, becauſe you force me either to buy or borrow of others, which I would yourſelf had diſplayed. When I receive any revenues from the church, then I will beſtow ſome money and pains to recover that *Arabic* book out of captain *Kempthorne*'s hands, now returned from the ſeas, for the uſe of Dr. *Pocock*, to whom I ſent it; for hitherto I have only beſtowed my money, as well as my pains, when I preach or officiate for others, either in or out of town. My landlord Mr. *Thomas Francis*, one of the king's life-guard, hath his houſe at the ſign of the *Sun* almoſt againſt the *New Exchange*, where I now live; but I hope *Poeta* and *Vates* will prove the ſame as Mr. *Mede* teſtifies—*Nil mihi reſcribas, attamen ipſe veni*; but yet a few lines from your honour will be more valued by me than the Χρύσεα ἔπη of *Pythagoras*. Let me meet with them either at the religious houſe of the devout lady *Ranelagh*, or at mine own lodging. I will reſt content, yea μακρόθυμος, and ſatisfied with longanimity, until your honour ſhall find an occaſion to come to *London*, to ſpeak with any biſhop in my behalf.

Your moſt obliged ſervant,
BENJAMIN DENHAM.

Letters from biſhop FELL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *June* 10.

THE bearer hereof Mr. *Guiſe*, a gentleman of very good parts and acquiſitions, has undertaken the deſcription of *India*, for the *Atlas*, which is printing in this place; and being deſirous not to tranſcribe relations and journals already publiſhed, now takes a journey to *London*, to receive thoſe helps and notices, which our preſent commerce in thoſe parts can give him. As I am well aſſured, that no patronage and aſſiſtance can be of greater moment in this affair than yours; ſo I perſuade myſelf, that none will be with greater readineſs afforded. I ſhall not therefore go about to excuſe the confidence of this addreſs, or the trouble it will give you; but recommending Mr. *Guiſe* to your favour, and yourſelf to the bleſſing of almighty God, I remain with great reſpect,

Honoured Sir,
your moſt humble,
and faithful ſervant,
JO. OXON.

Honoured SIR, *July* 19.

BEING informed by Mr. *Guiſe*, that upon your recommendation the company has been pleaſed ſo far to own his deſign, as to order his having the liberty to ſurvey ſuch relations and papers of theirs, which may aſſiſt him in his deſign; I am to return

turn my acknowledgments in his behalf, and I am very confident that neither yourſelf nor the company will have cauſe to regret the encouragement which you are pleaſed to give him. In my laſt I told you, that Mr. *Guiſe* would not ſatisfy himſelf with putting together printed narratives, and the ſtories of extravagant travellers, but took a journey to *London*, there to receive more particular and ſober inſtructions: but ſuch is his courage and deſire to do his work to all poſſible advantage, that he purpoſes himſelf to go into the *Indies*, and only truſt to his own eyes, and certain knowledge. It is an extraordinary thing, that a gentleman as he is, who is not preſſed by want, and whoſe parts and friends would not fail to prefer him at home, ſhould ſo eſpouſe this affair, as to prefer it before his eaſe and intereſts. Whatever is poſſible to be done by one man, the company may expect from his parts and induſtry. His ſkill in mathematics will enable him to make his own geographical and aſtronomical obſervations; his ſkill in draught and deſigning will qualify him taking the proſpects of cities, havens, and forts, and all remarkable appearances: and his genius towards the acquiring of languages will let him in not only to ſuch a correſpondence with the natives, as may forward his undertaking, but poſſibly advance your Chriſtian and noble deſign of propagating religion, which I pray God ſucceed. You will be pleaſed to continue your patronage, and thereby oblige the public, and alſo,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt affectionate,

and faithful ſervant,

Jo. OXON.

Letters from Mr. JOSEPH GLANVILL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable Sir,

I KNOW it is not uſual for ſtrangers of no name or conſideration, thus boldly to addreſs to thoſe of your quality; and perſons of the rank you hold of ſuch great worth and accompliſhments are as uncommon as ſuch addreſſes. But you have diſcloſed ſo many eminent excellencies to the world, that it is impoſſible to know any thing of you without reſpect and wonder; and unjuſt not to pay ſome of the tribute due to ſo great a virtue. You have a nobleneſs, that invites affection, as well, as that which commands diſtance; and I ſhall not diſhonour the ſplendor of your extraction and family by ſaying, that you do more honour your birth, than you are honoured by it; and are leſs illuſtrious by the nobility of your blood, than by that you derive from your proper perfections. Therefore, had I not had an aſſurance of your goodneſs, equal to my apprehenſions of your quality and merit, I had ſuffered my ambition to prefer this little trifle to your eyes, to have languiſhed without the relief of ſo criminal a boldneſs. But, Sir, your native ſweetneſs is my excuſe for this fault, as it was the motive; and you cannot expect to be free from ſuch troubleſome importunities, except you had leſs worth to occaſion them, or leſs goodneſs to encourage ſuch applications. This ſmall diſcourſe, that now begs the favour of your acceptance, can acquaint you with nothing new but the reſpects of the author. Nor hath it any thing to excuſe its aſpiring to ſuch hands, but the devotion, wherewith it is offered you. I am confident your free and enquiring genius is no enemy to pre-exiſtence, or at leaſt to a modeſt propoſal of thoſe *Platonic* notions. Your mind is too great and generous to boggle at uncommon opinions; and I am ſecure, that you will appoint no other judge of thoſe theories, but an unintereſted and impartial reaſon. If ſuch as you cheriſh thoſe beams of reſtored *Platoniſm*, they will ſhine

ſhine more and more to a perfect day; otherwiſe this light will ſneak back to its forgotten darkneſs, and be buried again in its old obſcurity. I beg no favour for any of my miſtakes or errors; if you uſe them roughly, it is no more than myſelf would do, did I know them. I intreat you therefore to be juſt to the notions, but candid to the management. Upon the credit of thoſe great men, that have owned them, I dare be a little confident of the former; though for the latter I deſpair of any tolerable treatment, but from ingenuity and ſweetneſs. What my motives were to this engagement, I cannot acquaint you without being uncivil to your patience; nor can I detain you any longer by my impertinencies for fear of unmannerly diſtreſſing it: wherefore leaſt my intended civilities ſhould prove rudeneſſes, and my reſpects, injuries, I dare add no more, but the aſſurance, that I am,

SIR,

an eternal honourer of your virtues.

SIR, *Bath, Oct.* 7.

I HAVE lately received a letter from Mr. *Jo. How*, the miniſter, in which he tells me, that he acquainted you with a deſign I am now upon, which is to collect ſome modern well atteſted relations of fact, to prove the exiſtence of witches and apparitions; and that you thereupon were pleaſed to mention a notable narrative in your hands of Sir *George Mansfield*'s caſe, which he ſaith you are willing to oblige me with. That will be a very great favour, and I moſt humbly deſire it of you.

I HAVE of a long time been exceedingly importuned to reprint the ſtory of Mr. *Mompeſſon*, which hath been ſo induſtriouſly run down by contrived tales, that have no manner of truth in them, and ſome of them not the leaſt appearance of any. But having not been very willing to intermeddle further in things of this nature, I have till of late contented myſelf to ſatisfy the enquiries, that have been made me about it, either by letter, or word of mouth. But thoſe are now ſo many, and ſo vexatious, that I have at laſt reſolved upon a new edition of my book of witchcraft, and the reinforcement of that certain relation, as well for mine own eaſe, as the ſatisfaction of thoſe, that have ſo earneſtly deſired it. And becauſe ſome books have come out ſince mine, that very confidently oppoſe, and ſcorn the belief of witches and apparitions, and particularly one lately written by Mr. *Webſter*, licenſed by Sir *Jonas Moore*, your vice-preſident of the Royal Society (at which I a little wonder) I have therefore determined not only to confirm what I have writ formerly on this ſubject, but to endeavour fully to prove the main buſineſs by a collection of the beſt modern evidences I can get.

To which purpoſe I have written to divers of my friends to aſſiſt me with ſuch relations, as they have good aſſurance of, and particularly to Mr. *Hunt* of this county, who hath had ſo much to do in thoſe matters, and from whom I had the ſtory of the witch of *Shepton*, printed in my book. He hath been pleaſed to lend me his book of examinations of thoſe witches, with whom he was concerned, and from that I have got ſuch a collection, as I believe will be as good evidence, as any hath ever yet been given in the caſe of witches. Laſt night he was here with me at my houſe (being now in this place judge of the quarter ſeſſions) and told me, that he once related thoſe paſſages to the late moſt worthy biſhop of *Cheſter*, who ſaid, that you deſired an account from him of the ſame, but his occaſions would not permit him ſo much ſtay in town as to wait on you. I hope I ſhall ſhortly give it you as fully, with divers other relations, that may be worth peruſal. I am very careful to inform myſelf

ſelf of all particulars of thoſe ſtories I uſe, to prevent cavils; and that occaſions many letters and enquiries, which have much retarded my buſineſs: but I make what haſte I ſafely can, and take care not to make too much, knowing what ſevere judges and cenſurers I am to expect. If you ſhall pleaſe, Sir, to afford me the honour and encouragement of your aſſiſtance, by permitting me the narrative Mr. *How* mentioned, it will very much both credit and further my deſign. I hope ſhortly to wait on you at *London*, and am very ſorry I was ſo unhappy as to miſs of you when I was laſt in town. I intended to have ſought other opportunities of paying you that duty, but I was called out of town ſooner than I expected. I do not deſire, that the relation ſhould be ventured by the poſt, or carrier; but if you ſhall pleaſe to order a ſervant to acquaint me with your receipt of this, it will be a ſatisfaction to,

Honourable Sir,
your moſt humble,
moſt obedient, and moſt
faithful honourer and ſervant,
JOS. GLANVILL.

SIR, *Bath, Jan.* 25.

WHEN I had laſt the honour of waiting on you, you were pleaſed to promiſe me further aſſiſtance in my deſign, *viz.* the proof of witches and apparitions. I have got a collection very conſiderable, for plainneſs and ſtrength of evidence, and I hope ſuch as will be enough to ſhame all the atheiſts, ſcepticks, Sadducees, and witch-advocates in the world: but yet a few well atteſted relations may be of uſe for further confirmation; for ſuch I am yet ſoliciting divers friends, and have promiſe of conſiderable aſſiſtance by the duke of *Lauderdale*'s and Sir *George Mackenzy*'s means out of *Scotland*. There is no doubt but *Ireland* will afford as much, which, if you have opportunity, and it be not too troubleſome, I moſt humbly deſire through your means.

I HAVE been often told of late, that you do now diſown the ſtory of the *Devils of Maſcon*, and that a clear impoſture hath been diſcovered in it. The like hath very falſely been reported of Mr. *Mompeſſon* and myſelf, in relation to that ſtory; ſo that I am apt to think, that this alſo concerning you may be a contrived falſhood (for by ſuch ſome men endeavour to run down all things of this kind) and therefore I moſt humbly beg you would pleaſe to let me know, if there be any truth in this ſo confident a report.

I GO hence *Wedneſday* next towards *Worceſter*, where I ſtay during the whole next month: any letter you ſhall pleaſe to order me, will find me at my houſe in the college there, I am,

Moſt honoured Sir,
your moſt affectionate honourer,
and moſt humble ſervant,
JOS. GLANVILL.

SIR, *Worceſter, Feb.* 24.

I MOST humbly thank you for the honour and favour of yours; and am extremely ſatisfied with the account you are pleaſed to give me of your not having diſclaimed the relation of the ſpirit of *Maſcon:* it is confidently ſo reported in divers places;

places; for men will ſay any thing to rid themſelves of the evidence of ſuch things; and therefore I make it my buſineſs to be very careful in the ſtrict examination of all the relations of the kind, that I admit into my collection, and I hope, that which you have already ſent me, and the other Mr. *How* hath for me, will not be diſcredited by their company. I ſhall not ſtay in this place (where I am one of the prebendaries of the church) much above a week longer: when I am ſettled at home, I ſhall write to Mr. *How* for it; and deſire you would accept of my moſt humble thanks for this and your other favours. The great caution I uſe in examining the relations makes my book go on very ſlowly, yet I hope it will be finiſhed this ſpring. I am in expectation of ſome notable ſtories from *Scotland*. Sir, I pray God to keep you in health, and preſerve you long among us, for the inſtruction and benefit of mankind. I am,

SIR,

your moſt obliged, and
moſt humble honourer and ſervant,
JOS. GLANVILL.

Honourable SIR, *Bath, Nov.* 2.

THERE is nothing can come from you, but what is very obliging; and your laſt favour I received with the greateſt veneration and acknowledgment. Through the neglect of the carrier it came but juſt now to my hands; ſo that I can ſay no more, but that I implicitly honour it, as I do all the iſſues of your excellent pen, with the higheſt reſpect and affection. I am very ſorry, that I can make you no return ſuitable to this, and the grand obligation of a former favour of this kind; but I ſhall ſtudy to ſhew myſelf acknowledging. And becauſe I find you ſo ready to oblige, I am bold to deſire your acceptance of a ſmall thing of mine, which I have ordered my bookſeller to convey to your hands with this. I have ſomething elſe preparing for the preſs, which is more in the way of your generous deſigns, and will at leaſt ſignify my affection to thoſe noble proſecutions. As ſoon as it is abroad, I ſhall crave leave to preſent it to you, and in the interim beg your candid reception of the aſſurance, that I am,

Honourable Sir,
the moſt affectionate honourer
of your incomparable virtues,
JOS. GLANVILL.

Dr. WILKINS *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Wadham College, Sept.* 6, 1653.

YOU have ſo well acted the part, which belongs to me, of returning acknowledgments for the favours received at *London*, that I am as much aſhamed, as unable to imitate you. But I have known, Sir, that you are a great maſter of civilities as well as learning, and therefore ſhall in all things moſt willingly ſubmit. I had thought you had gone out of town ſhortly after the time I waited upon you, which was the reaſon I did not attempt to trouble you with a viſit.

THIS bearer is the young man, whom I recommended to you. I am apt to believe, that upon trial you will approve of him. But if it ſhould happen otherwiſe, it is my deſire he may be returned, it being not my aim ſo much to prefer him, as

to ſerve you, which your own eminent worth will always oblige me unto with my utmoſt zeal and fidelity. If it be not, Sir, prejudicial to your other affairs, I ſhould exceedingly rejoice in your being ſtayed in *England* this winter, and the advantage of your converſation at *Oxford*, where you will be a means to quicken and direct us in our enquiries. And though a perſon ſo well accompliſhed as yourſelf, cannot expect to learn any thing amongſt pedants, yet you will here meet with divers perſons, who will truly love and honour you. And it is the more generous kind of felicity to teach and do good, than to learn and receive it. If I knew with what art to heighten thoſe inclinations, which you intimate of coming to *Oxford*, into full reſolutions, I would improve my utmoſt ſkill to that purpoſe; and ſhall be moſt ready to provide the beſt accommodations for you, that this place will afford. I am,

SIR,

your true honourer, and
moſt faithful ſervant,
JO. WILKINS.

Mr. JOHN MALLET *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Pointington, March* 27, 1655.

YOUR ſickneſs in *London* ſome months ſince gave me too much ſadneſs, either to be ſilenced on that occaſion, or to be expreſſed with leſs trouble to you, than in thoſe few ſyllables, wherein I ventured to confine my grief, in only telling you, I was in no ſmall meaſure ſenſible of one on that ſcore: and now, Sir, having lately underſtood the much advanced hope of your regaining health, which if it pleaſe God to perfect, by a total remove of all thoſe lingering attendances on ſickneſs, and ſpeedily to redouble your ſtrength, which I moſt zealouſly beſeech him to grant you, my revived joy will be as now my hope of it is already, beyond the expreſſion of a letter: and I longingly wiſh for the happy opportunity of performing my congratulating duties, when I may have the honour of waiting on you at *Stalbridge*, where I underſtand you are ſhortly expected. But, Sir, in the mean time I could not withhold theſe lines, which yet I ſhould have aſſumed the confidence to have ſent you two or three weeks ſooner, had not *Parthenifſa* required ſome of my time to entertain her with moſt ſerious obſervance of her excellent beauties, which are ſo illuſtriouſly delightful, that even the aſhes and funeral flames of that phœnix obſcure the brighteſt princeſſes and their romances: yet her author muſt be petitioned not to leave her there, but to revive and proſecute her oracle's engagement, as much for the readers as can be imagined for her ſervant's ſatisfaction; unleſs poſſibly, and very truly too, it may be thought a greater happineſs to have ſuch a monument, as your honourable brother hath given her, than any other fruition could be; and a high recompence of thoſe virtues, for all their perſecutions to be placed in ſo ſerene a ſphere as that admired ſtory, which, were not that way of writing warranted by ſome ſacred precedents, and by ever being the cleareſt arguments and trials of the moſt able geniuſes, and the choiceſt favours they beſtow to enlighten the world with, my lord *Brogbill* is authority enough to make romances need no other, and to prove, that none can ſo well write of ſuch excellencies as are the myſteries of love, of ſtate, and military glory, but ſuch an excellent perſon, who is as much repleniſhed with the knowledge, as highly renowned for his management of them: and certainly nothing can be ſaid againſt romances, after his owning them, whereby they are rendered as ſafe in his being their ſanctuary, as in their own virtue. And if ever they muſt be excelled by

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any thing more ſerious or divine, it can only come from the ſame hand, or his noble brother's publiſhing his own ſeraphic treatiſes, which heretofore I have been honoured with the ſight of, as alſo by the many other high favours, which have infinitely rendered me,

SIR,

your moſt obliged,

moſt humble, and faithful ſervant,

JOHN MALLET.

Dr. WORSLEY *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Deareſt SIR, *Dublin, Oct.* 14, 1657.

I HAVE had the honour of two from you ſince my laſt coming into *Ireland*, for both which I have been ſomewhat too long, and too unjuſtly your debtor.

I AM very glad of your ſucceſs in the two experiments you mention about copper and antimony, though the former ſeems to be the more noble, the other being more familiar, if not by the ſame, yet by other menſtrua. But that of copper may perhaps be uſeful; if we can gueſs the ground of that rightly, and can reduce it unto or demonſtrate it from ſome principles of nature. Though I ſhould account it alſo much more uſeful and luciferous, if part of the copper were ſo ſeparated, and the reſt of the body of it were ſome other definite and ſimilar ſubſtance, than if the whole body be made inflammable.

FOR experiments, I have been able to make none ſince I came, but one or two œconomical about drinks; and about a more perfect way of conſerving of green flowers and fruit, than thoſe I did the laſt year, by obſerving ſome error in the former.

FOR the plot, that was laid at the *Rheniſh* wine-houſe, I look upon it like the ſtory of *Columbus*, who having ſatisfied himſelf, was not diſcouraged in his attempt from the unuſualneſs of the undertaking or difficulty he found in the entertainments of it; but waited with patience until a ſeaſonable time to effect it. And I am told, that this alſo, which you mention was there diſcourſed of, was not taken out of any old manuſcript, or found by chance under an altar-ſtone obſcured by a dark hieroglyphical character, which might be taken in I know not how many ſenſes like the *Delphic* oracles. But it is in part real experiment; the grounds of it ſolid; the law of it nature; the method of it certainty, or rather neceſſity. That it is not a thing framed in the will of any man, or upheld by the opinion of antiquity; but it is a real door, a key, a light to things viſible, and to the harmony between them and other things inviſible. But the times, ſeaſons, and opportunities for all things are in the hand and diſpoſal only of the Lord.

YOU are pleaſed to mention a book lately come forth, endeavouring the reconciliation of the *Dogmatiſt* with the *Helmontian*, which I would be glad to receive your opinion farther of.

I AM much affected with the generality of your late contagious feveriſh diſtemper, but am able to offer little that is peculiar, having made no obſervations peculiarly of it. The beſt general remedy I have yet had an opinion of is your Radix Virginiana, which as it is an effectual and potent alexipharmacon againſt the virulent poiſon of the rattle-ſnake or adder, ſo it is looked upon by ſome as one of the beſt ſimples of many to reſiſt all contagious putrefaction. I think it however a ſafer and more innocent medicine than many other.

IF you thought that large letter worth the communication to our learned friend with you there at *Oxford*, I would be glad to receive ſomething, that might offer a further occaſion of diſcuſſion and debate, being no way tied to this or that opinion or expreſſion. I am,

Dear Sir,

your hearty affectionate ſervant,

B. WORSLEY.

Dr. POPE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Paris, Sept.* 10, 1659.

I HAVE been long balancing with myſelf, whether it were more pardonable in me to omit writing, or to write nothing to you. In the one I ſhould forget myſelf and my obligations; in the other the reſpect, that is due to you, who, I preſume, are not uſed to receive empty letters. The receipt of that letter you were pleaſed to honour me with, put it paſt queſtion, that I ought to trouble you with an anſwer. Though I am very much aſhamed to tell you, that I have ſpent moſt of my leiſure time in reading romances, which we hire like horſes, and monſieur *Corneille's* plays, and in viſiting the eminent places in and about this city. And that as yet for want of language, or boldneſs, or recommendation, I am not acquainted with any whom you enquire after, except monſieur *Petit*, who pretends to know very much in glaſſes and mechanics; and, if you will believe him, there is neither prieſt nor prelate in *France* minds any thing that is curious, beſides himſelf. Sir, here is publicly ſhewed in *Paris* a kind of a wooden ſtone, found betwixt this and *Rouen* by an odd accident. A fiſherman took it up, and tied it to his boat, thinking to ſtop his boat with it, which it did not do, but followed the boat, ſwimming upon the top of the water. It weighs 54 *lb.* it is very hard, though full of little holes, as thoſe ſtones are, with which they make grottos. It is of an irregular figure, ſomething above a foot long, near half as broad, and about a third in thickneſs. It ſwims without fraud, and thruſt down a hundred times to the bottom mounts as often. Sir, I humbly deſire your pardon for filling this letter with ſuch trivial intelligence; if any thing better come to my knowledge, you ſhall be informed of it by,

SIR,

your moſt humble,

and obliged ſervant,

WALT. POPE.

Mr. CODRINGTON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *October* 2, 1660.

BEFORE I ſuffer this pen to paſs any further, I muſt return you my moſt humble thanks for the gratuity, which about ten years ſince I received for the book, which I then dedicated to you. What is here incloſed I have now preferred to your obſervance, I muſt beſeech you to grace with your acceptance. It is a poem in *Latin* on a grateful ſubject; I have taken ſome pains in the compoſure of it, and have been induced by ſome worthy friends, who truly honour you, to devote this ſervice unto you, unto whom all learning oweth for a patron, and the world for an example. I doubt not but you have ſeen many books extant under this hand in proſe. I

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am now printing all my poems, a great part whereof I have dedicated to many eminent perſonages amongſt our nobility and gentry, and to ſome doctors, as famous for their learning and their piety beyond the ſeas, as in our own univerſities. I muſt beſeech you with the ſame candor, that you will be pleaſed to accept of this, which moſt preciſely doth devote itſelf to you, and is proud to wear the honour of your name on the forehead of it: may it return me any teſtimony of worth from your accurate judgment; the many laurels, which the world hath given me, ſhall not ſo much crown me, as the honour I ſhall receive to have pleaſed you, and to expreſs myſelf,

SIR, your moſt humble
and devoted ſervant,
ROBERT CODRINGTON.

SIR, I have lately rendered into *Engliſh* a book of my lord biſhop of *Lincoln*'s, intituled, the Obligation of Conſcience; it is in the original dedicated to you. I was, indeed, offered to dedicate the tranſlation to whom I pleaſed, but I have followed the doctor's example, and it continues in the tranſlation ſtill unto you, and in the doctor's own words, as may appear by the book, which is now newly extant, and to be ſold by Mr. *James Alleſtry*, at the ſign of the *Bell* in *Paul*'s church-yard; I thought fit in this place to acquaint you with it, becauſe I do find it to be well pleaſing to the doctor, who (I thank him) prefers the tranſlation; and I hope it will prove as acceptable to you, for I am aſſured it had been impoſſible for me to give it to a more noble or a more lettered perſonage.

Mr. THOMAS POVEY *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Lincoln's-Inn Fields, May* 8, 1661.

I CONSIDER myſelf to be very unhappy, that I was not at home to receive you, as well as your book; for, although I eſteem your eſſays according to the value, which is given them by ſuch as are beſt able to judge; yet you being in yourſelf a full and noble library, and my way of reading, and my improvements (if I have been capable of any) being by converſation, and by the living diſcourſes of ſuch as are worthy to be ſtudied; I have reaſon to prefer what I loſt by my abſence to what I found, when at my return your excellent volume was delivered to me by my ſervant; which nevertheleſs I thank you for, as for a thing rare and precious, although not ſo deſirable, or ſo beneficial to me and to mankind, as your own ſociety and example; by which it is more eaſy and more delightful to advance towards learning and virtue; the qualifications by which you are as eminently known to the world as by your name. Much of this I had ſaid to you, if I had found you, where I intend to leave this in your abſence; with which you will receive a ſmall quantity of pepper of *Jamaica*. I can only ſay of it, that it exceedingly ſatisfies my ſmell and taſte; and ſeems a proper ſeaſoning to any that affect cloves, nutmegs or mace; the aromatic richneſs of all which ſpices being plainly imparted by this generous berry. I could wiſh you would throughly examine it, by making ſuch experiments, that the qualities of it may be well diſcovered and underſtood; for I am ready to believe, that it is not of a low or ordinary degree. I have prayed Sir *Robert Moray*, that he alſo will attempt ſomething upon it. And, if you ſhall hold it worthy of your favour and approbation, I ſhall ſerve you with a greater quantity. I am,

SIR, your moſt humble ſervant,
THO. POVEY.

Dr.

Dr. BOYLE *bishop of* Corke to *Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, Aug.* 13, 1662.

I RECEIVED the honour of two of your letters since I left *England*, and both upon the same account. I had long since made you my acknowledgments for that noble favour attended with some return to the particulars of those letters, had not my desires to acquaint the earl of *Orrery* with them (who being then in *Dublin*, and I in the country) occasioned my delay all this time; for which I humbly beg your pardon. As to the business itself, I am perfectly satisfied, that your design (if you had any, for I cannot yet imagine you to be any otherwise than passive in the whole matter) in acquiring those impropriations was charitable and religious; for you cannot do any thing that is otherwise. I must likewise very much applaud your pious intendments for the advancement of real learning, and especially for the extensiveness of your charity towards the poor Heathen natives in *New-England:* but yet I must humbly take leave to acknowledge myself unsatisfied, why that additional revenue, which his majesty designed and promised for the better support of the clergy here, that they may with greater comfort attend the cures of their several churches, should be diverted to any other use, though in itself it be generous and handsome; especially when I consider, how many congregations depend upon the service of those parishes; how destitute they will be of a church to resort unto; how the poor people will be compelled to wander through the country to find out an opportune place for the performance of their public duties and devotions unto God; for although at present your piety provides all that possibly you may, to prevent these sad consequences, yet you know not how they shall be minded, who succeed you; nor are you certain, that those other persons (whoever they be) that have obtained this grant under your patronage, will be as inclinable upon that account as you are. If they be not, (as it is great odds on your side against most men living) it will not then be unworthy your consideration, whether something of their fault will not be chargeable upon you, by whose only means they were enabled to do the prejudice.

As to that advice and resolve, which was given you by that most excellent prelate (whose piety and learning makes him deservedly honoured by all, that have either known or read him) I must necessarily believe it was founded on a very great mistake; for in case the difference be otherwise than it is stated in your letter, if that blessed martyr *Charles* the first did in his life time solemnly devote all impropriations unto the church that should be any way invested in him; if his most gracious majesty, that now is, should as an early evidence of his gratitude to God for his miraculous restoration, immediately after his access into his kingdom, engage himself in the like bounty to this church of *Ireland*; if his majesty had not only promised, but actually granted them under his privy signet, before any concession (of what your grant contains) was made unto you (whereof each particular may, as I suppose, be made somewhat conspicuous) then certainly you will think it worthy some farther consideration, whether you will insist upon that grant or no.

DEAR Sir, I humbly beg your pardon for this freedom, having no other obligation thereunto, but my faithfulness to the truth and to yourself. I am now freed from that public trust, which was incumbent on me, while I was in *England*, and have not the least pretence to any of those particulars included in your proviso, which, I presume,

I presume, will secure me from any misinterpretation of being less than I am obliged to be, or less than I profess to be,

Dear Sir,

your most faithful,

and most affectionate

humble servant,

MICH. CORKE.

Dr. COLLINS *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Colmogoro*, 60 wersts from *Archangel*, *Sept.* 1, 1663.

THE noble present of your learned book has extremely obliged me. Indeed the defects and difficulties which I have found in our profession, have so much disheartened me, that I had quite deserted that design, if my narrow estate had not necessitated me to make use of that art to an honest subsistence. Not to instance in the grand reproaches of the gout and quartans, and some other horrid monsters; I could never find any author, that gives an account of some sorts of stinking breaths, nor of the cure. The rectifying of that one distemper surely were enough to make a man richly famous. Another is, the cure of red faces, in which I have known methodists travail a long time, without success. To be quit of either, I know some persons would part with the better half of their estates. We grope also in the cure of *Lues Venerea*, both in that tedious mild way of decoctions, *&c.* and that other slovenly, uncertain, dangerous way of salivation. I have had several times unexpected success in ten or twelve days by that slight preparation of mercurius cum sulphure. And for giving ease to those sharp nocturnal pains, I have used only an infusion of mercury nitre (in spirit of wine) well made almost your way, by drying it and a proportion of tinctura opii exhibited at night going to bed, which hath gently sweated the patient, and in two nights taken away those torments; and finding it succeed so well, I proceeded to fifteen or twenty nights successively, to which I ascribe most of the cure. As to the cure of quartans, methodists and others use vomits, diaphoretics, and an ecphractic course, chalybiate, *&c.* frustra, when it is easily effected by restringents, as tormentile with gentian in electuaries, decoctions, which strengthen the relaxed parts, and given before the fit, with a grain of well prepared mercurius nitre; it vomits not, but is as valid as the pulvis patrum, which I can affirm experimentally. But not to trouble the sun with a candle, I shall only beg your assistance at your best leisure, *de causis & cura fœtoris oris*; I mean not that, which is so manifest, as in ulcers of the lungs, or crudities, but in one, that seems to be every way sound, *&c.* A nobleman very near the emperor has a red face, who is often upbraided with drunkenness, and none will believe but he drinks in private (for publicly he does not) has confessed to me, he hath been, and still is, the most abstemious person in the world, and has run a course with the *German* doctor now in *Moscow* for six weeks; and after much blood-letting and purging hath been a little paled, but *naturam expellas furca licet*, *&c.* Now to come to what concerns your commands; in these cold parts, I can only promise my best endeavours, when the frost comes. I fear, I shall not have the conveniencies that I would have, if I am confined to the embassador's quarters, which I shall be, till I conclude, whether I will engage to serve his majesty or not; in which I shall use some demur, till I see whether there will be a good conclusion in our embassy about the restoration of the privileges, and what hopes

hopes of peace in theſe parts; for as yet they are embroiled with *Pole*, *Tartar*, and *Swede*.

You may pleaſe to remember, we were at *Lees* talking of their witchcraft, in which the *Ruſſe* are very ſtudious (eſpecially the nuns) whether imaginary or real, I know not, only what men have confeſſed to me has been acted upon themſelves in viſible wens and bladders ſet upon ſome, on their foreheads; on others ſopra'l cazzo, others diſabled for months and years, and then reſtored, as one of my friends, a *Ruſs*, does now acknowledge at *Archangel*, I ſay, to thoſe I am bound in civility to give credit; nay, they will ſo diſable a woman, as her huſband for ſome time ſhall find her uncapable. They are nevertheleſs too credulous as to the buſineſs of witchcraft, that they aſcribe all unuſual accidents to faſcination; and if they have any about them, that they ſuſpect (eſpecially old women, who are moſt obnoxious) they torment them worſe than *Hopkins* the witch-finder in *Eſſex*, till they extort their queries out of the old wretches, to their utter ruin. An inſtance of which I have newly received from *Moſcow*, where the empreſs's father * lately married to a ſecond wife, not finding himſelf ſo vigorous in his amorous engagements as formerly, or rather as he deſired (forgetting, that now he is not far from ſeventy) he conceived, that a former miſtreſs his menial ſlave (who was ſhadowed by a huſband, to prevent inconveniencies) I ſay, he ſuſpected ſhe might in reaſon malign his lady, that came to eclipſe her happineſs, and ſo had contrived this ſuſpected faſcination, which was attended alſo with ſome diſtempers broken out in his legs, nocturnal laſſitudes, and his lady ſurpriſed with an angina, all which conſpired to rivet their jealouſies on both ſides, ſo that ſhe ſuſtained all the exquiſite torments of *Ruſſia*, in which alſo her huſband was concerned, and all the old wives thereabouts, that had any deformity, or diſpoſed to look ſourly or melancholic. I fear at my arrival in *Moſcow* I ſhall be tormented with the relation, as much as they with the whip, and my opinion muſt be aſked, which will not give ſatisfaction, if not compliant with their vain fantaſies.

* *Elias Daſelourdge.*

SINCE I began writing I heard from *Moſcow*, that a *Tartar*, a friend of mine, hath procured me out of *Siberia* the ſkin of that beaſt, which affords us the muſk out of *Siberia*; the muſk is the navel, as they ſay, but when I have it, I will give you a true account, and the rarity itſelf. If your leiſure permit to write the latter end of *December*, or beginning of *January*, pray give your letter to Mr. *Butterſby* at the great *Helmet* in *Fenchurch-ſtreet*, who does provide our medicaments for us, and is a very honeſt man and able apothecary. My humble ſalutes to my lady *Warwick*, lord *Rich*'s lady, with my humble petition to yourſelf for this trouble I give you in the reading ſo much ill writing. *Adio e viva vita d'oro.*

Your humble ſervant,

SAMUEL COLLINS.

SIR, I beg your pardon once more for this trouble, which may very much tend to my advancement, if you can aſſiſt me in the whitening of copper, that may abide the fire and hammer: it is no matter, whether it will the water of ſeparation; for I was deſired by a great favourite here to procure ſuch a ſlight, to get a a fictitious counterfeit plate made, which no doubt would be gainful in theſe parts, or any other; not to deſign a cheat, but certainly it might be a great ſaving of ſilver, which lies dead in noblemen's houſes. I went thus far by purifying the copper with powder of glaſs, that it became ponderous and fine, like ſilver; for the glaſs ſerved to waſh her ladyſhip's foul ſmock, which was taken off as oft as it became black with its fuſion together; now when we came to the blanching, either we knew not the proportion of

of arſenic, or the preparation, for it was either white enough and brittle, or yellowiſh and not brittle. I deſire your advice about fixing of arſenic a ready cheap way. One *Smart*, that dwells in *Dorcheſter* houſe, a drudging operator, made me pay ten-pence for an ounce, but it was well fixed, and may be given inwardly, in a doſe of three, four, or five grains, and decocted loſes no weight, but imparts a balſamic virtue. Now I talk of balſams, methinks ſome better uſe might be made of the film or huſk that covers the ſhell of piſtachios: it hath an excellent balſamical odour, and is clammy, and a handful being cloſe griped, leaves many reſplendent cryſtal parcels in plicis palmæ; this I made trial upon the way, they were very new. I intend to try it for a vulnerary. There are ſome things uſed by the *Ruſſes* experimentally, which I ſhall impart; they come out of *Siberia*; by which way they bring radix Chinæ teuh, or chayè aniſum Indicum ſtellatum, which the *Perſians* here drink with their teuh, and is ſcented juſt like our aniſum, but methinks more grateful and very oleaginous. Here is a certain wooden ware, which the *Ruſſe* call capua, the *Dutch* mazer, the gummy droppings from birch, which, as they ſay, lies many years conſolidating in the ground, of which they make cups, very thin, light, and almoſt tranſparent; being put into warm water will turn inſide out, like leather, and are ſold the weight of ſilver for wood, and according to their largeneſs, the larger the dearer, twice, thrice, or more the weight of ſilver. I bought three at *Archangel*, with intent to ſend them to you, but I find by one ſkilful in that trade, that I was deceived, and they were counterfeits, with the feet cunningly ſet on and glewed, and patched up in ſeveral places with varniſh; ſo I was diſcouraged from ſending them, but ſhall procure ſome at a place called *Totma*, on the river above *Uſtiga*, where they have mineral ſalt waters. Sir, if I ſtay here, pray aſſiſt me with ſome rarities in our art. I ſhall be remote enough to do no man injury by the uſe of them. What I ſhall find worthy of a perſon of your learning and experience, I ſhall contribute, as an humble acknowledgment of your civilities.

I HAVE forgotten to mind your opinion about the *Iriſh* ſlate, which abounding with ſo much ſalt, I ſuppoſe may ſerve to many uſes in phyſic, beſides the vulgar, *viz.* contuſions, which how it poiſons, I know not, but it is much uſed for that purpoſe in the weſt of *England*; and I have given it with ecphractics, and I think it hath done well.

WHEREAS you hint in your book about a farther enquiry and uſe of the pulvis patrum, I did, upon my own fantaſy, give a doſe of it to *Knez Peter Broſoroffſky*, the *Ruſſe* embaſſador, when he was very ſick of a very violent fever, and thought in himſelf he ſhould die; it gave him ſudden relief the third day, and we expected no other criſis; I ſuppoſe it may do good in the gout, ſtrengthening the parts, and ſtopping the fermentation.

IF I had time, I would give you an account of their dreſſing their hides here; the odd ſmell, which *Ruſſia* leather has, it takes from the deogat, which is a kind of tar made of the roots of birch, and ſerves for many uſes, *&c.*

THAT operator *Smart* at *Dorcheſter* houſe ſold me a ſtinking ſulphureous balſam, that I have uſed with miraculous ſucceſs in ſore eyes. I forget what he calls it; Mr. *Butterſby* can help you to it. He makes ſulphur martis. If you know the making of ſulphur martis, pray impart it.

Honourable SIR, *Vologda, Nov.* 20, 1663.

I CANNOT get a larger room than this in my lord embaſſador's packet, which may beſpeak my endeavours. The winter has hitherto been ſo mild, that I have not yet given myſelf any ſatisfaction concerning thoſe experiments of cold. I do not well

underſtand the way of ſome things in your note of enquiry, being but hinted in ſhort; however I ſhall do my beſt to obſerve as much variety as I can of freezing, and the divers effects of cold, which may be done here (where we are) better than in *Moſcow*, being more northward. We are frighted with the alarms of the *Poles*, *Coſſacks*, and *Tartars*, who are ſaid to be between *Smolenſko* and *Waſma*, twice ninety werſts from *Moſcow*, all which hath happened by the confidence of the *Ruſſe* of a ceſſation, being tired with a long tedious war, and willing to diſband their army, to ſave charges, had no ſtanding army to reſiſt the invaſion of a great army of horſe under general *Sapega* and general *Pattz*; the king in the mean time with a royal army attending the motion of the imperial forces about *Bealogorod*. What the iſſue will be, God knows, for certainly the *Ruſſe* have been cruel to the borders, while they were conquerors, and divers fatal ſigns have forewarned the *Ruſſe* to make an honourable peace, when they might have done it in the time of the wars between the *Pole* and the *Swede*, *ſed quos Deus vult perdere, &c.* To omit many, which I have formerly noted in my Adverſaria, with a ſhort account of theſe parts, which I ſhould offer to your view, if I thought it worthy; there was laſt *December*, about the beginning, a dreadful blazing ſtar ſeen here by many, and at the ſame time an earthquake (hardly ever known in theſe parts) with which ſome people were caſt down to the earth, and one woman ſtricken blind, deaf and dumb for ſome days, and recovering her ſenſes and ſpeech, foretold a viſion, which the hearers ſtopped their ears at, or tongues, at leaſt, as being of too dangerous conſequence to be revealed. All which things amaze the graver ſort of people, and want only the event to make them either authentic or fabulous. I forgot to tell you what was obſerved concerning the general *Knez Jocov' Coodanicko-wich Chircaſkoy*, who twenty days ſince marching forth to ſtop the enemy's incurſion, the *Moſcow* bridge broke under the cannon; and attempting another bridge, that broke alſo. It is very like the timbers were diſproportionate to the weight of the cannon. *Sed Deus det pacem in diebus noſtris.*

I EXPECT ſome letters from a friend in *Siberia*, to whom I wrote two years ſince, deſiring an account of the animal, that yields the muſk, and a ſkin of that beaſt; which, and what rarities elſe I obtain, ſhall ſend or bring to you. My ſervice to lord and lady *Warwick* and yourſelf, and lady *Anne Berkley*. *Adio e viva vita d'oro.*

Your moſt humble ſervant,

S. COLLINS.

Mr. COOKE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Aug.* 13, 1664.

I AM unknown to your honour, but not unknowing of your excellencies and the renown you have juſtly thereby gained amongſt all the literati and ingenious. I know your parts and endowments are far above the talent of other perſons, and yet no leſs inferior to your charity: the firſt gets you the admiration of the intelligent, and the latter the importunity of the indigent. I confeſs, I would willingly aſpire to the nobler qualification, but having greater need to be a beggar, than pretence to be an admirer, I make bold to implore your favour on the behalf of a poor child of mine, whom I vehemently ſuſpect of the infirmity we call the king's evil. I have, Sir, in reading your incomparable books met with the mention of a nameleſs, and (as you were pleaſed to ſay) deſpicable herb, endued with a ſpecific quality for the cure of that diſeaſe. The diſcovery of that ſimple I preſume not to aſk, though ſecrecy be part of my profeſſion, and I ſhould in this caſe readily confirm it with the

double

double bond of oath and honour; but help for my child being the end of my desires in this particular, I only beg the use of that herb disguised or presented as you shall think fit and direct: and however it may continue a secret to me, yet I shall not forbear to publish the fame of my benefactor to all the world; and amongst other high advantages, which I may receive, reckon this for none of the least, that this address gives me the honour and opportunity of professing myself,

SIR,

your honour's most humble,

and most obedient servant.

JO. COOKE.

YOUR honour's commands will find me at Mr. secretary *Morice*'s office in *Whitehall*.

Mr. ENDICOTT *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, From *Boston* in *New England*, *Nov.* 9, 1665.

THE occasion of our giving you the trouble, is from the confidence we have of your favour and care of these his majesty's colonies in *New England*, manifested by your continual endeavours, as in promoting that good work of the native's conversion, so in taking opportunities for ingratiating us with his majesty and the right honourable the lord chancellor, as we understand by your letter to Mr. *Winthrop*, whereby you have given us that comfortable information of his majesty's grace towards us, expressing himself in a very favourable manner; and that the lord chancellor did assure you (with giving you commission to assure our friends in the city) that the king intends not any injury to our charter, or the dissolution of our civil government, or the infringement of our liberty of conscience; and that the doing of those things is none of the business of the commissioners; the truth of which we believe as we ought, having the word of so gracious a king.

BUT alas, Sir, the commission impowering those commissioners to hear and determine all cases, whether military, criminal, or civil, what they have further by instruction at present we know not; should this take place, what would become of our civil government, which hath been under God the hedge to that liberty for our consciences; for which the first adventurers passed through and bore up against all difficulties and discouragements that encountered them, as in the way to, so in their continuance in this wilderness?

SIR, we return unto you our true and hearty thanks for your former favours, and crave the continuance thereof as opportunity shall offer, and the great mover of hearts shall incline you in appearing our friend still, that, if possible, the commission may be recalled, for which end we have made our humble supplication to his majesty, in whose eyes may we find favour, we and our posterity shall have cause to bless the Lord; but if the decree be past, so that it may not be recalled, we shall wait the Lord's issue with us; and whatever may be the conjectures of any rendering alterations here advisable, the issue will speak them to be the subversion of all that, which makes this place or our abode therein desirable, or if the envy of those, that desire a dominion over us (not to serve his majesty's interest in advancing plantation work with the continuance of godliness, but to serve themselves by his majesty's authority and our ruin) shall prevail, it will to posterity be rendered a disservice to his majesty's honour, and such a damage, as the procurers will not be able to repair. We can sooner leave our place, and all our pleasant outward enjoyments, than leave

that, which was the first ground of wandering from our native country; nor are we thereby made such strangers thereto, but we can rather choose to return, and take our lot with our brethren, than abide here under the deprivement of the end of our travels; our way is with the Lord. Craving your honour's pardon for this boldness, lifting up our best desires to the Lord for you, we remain,

SIR,

your humble servant,

Jo. ENDICOTT, governour, in the name and with the consent of the general court.

Mr. NATH. FOXCROFT *to Mr.* RO. BOYLE.

From my father's at *Finsbury Court-house*, over-against the *New Artillery* near *Moorfields*, *Nov.* 29, 1664.

Most honoured SIR,

PURSUANT to your commands, and in compliance with my own ambitions to serve (though this instance be but a very small hint of my promised future endeavours) so obliging and excellent a person as yourself, I have ventured the presumption of this, whereby to let you understand the success of an enquiry you were pleased to engage me to concerning a carbuncle; so stiled by an acquaintance of mine, in whose hands it was deposited, until the determination of a suit at law about it; though his description, I believe, will incline you rather to conclude it a diamond, being of the same colour, or water therewith, of a tablet cut, and better than half an inch square. That part of the relation I made of it to you was true, that it being laid on the ground in a dark night (without the circumstances of rubbing, which you have observed necessary to some) would appear very lustrous at the distance of about threescore paces, not imputable to the reflection of some lights or stars shining thereon; since it would do the same also in a dark room, where such causes were not admitted. I made a diligent search after it, that, if possible, I might have given you the entertainment to have viewed it yourself; but found its worth was so extraordinary, that it exceeded the purchase of a private purse: wherefore it was transported, and at last sold to the infanta of *Spain*, in whose possession it now remains.

THERE is another part of your injunctions, which I hope will prove an argument to plead my pardon for this boldness, which you will readily remember, when you shall understand, that within these ten days I am designed for Fort *St. George* in the *East-Indies*; not a little glad of the occasion, if in any thing I may be instructed to be tributary to learning, in being serviceable to so great a master thereof as you, whose directions I shall with much obsequious diligence make it my business to observe; and where my unaccomplishments render me defective, I beg you to impute it to my incapacities, and not want of will or affection to be otherwise.

AND, Sir, though I must confess myself a very bad and unconfident beggar, yet (encouraged by your offer, and my own hopes to make some not unacceptable essays therewith) I now presume to request the favour of some fluxing powders, with directions from first to last how to use them. My non-experience desires you will be a little particular on a ground-work, whereon my designs flatter me with a promise of no contemptible superstructures or ungrateful consequences. The command of any, which attainment (if meriting your diversions) I will promise shall never be out of

your

your reach, since it was you first fired me unto such attempts. And as a farther endearment of this favour, be pleased to add, by what signs you would distinguish those earths, which encourage to such experiments, and are most probable to afford such metals, as may not be unworthy the like searches: for, if I mistake not, you only hint in some of your writings to have found in certain earths (not particularly describing any) no inconsiderable quantities of gold, and go no farther.

BUT I fear I have transgressed too much against what a stranger modestly ought to allow him in his first desires, which should be sparing: if mine exceed those limits, I requeſt you to believe them not occasioned by the impudence of the beggar, but rather from the consideration of the largeness and bounty of your mind, which has every where given abundant testimonies of your contentments to oblige all ingenuous to an inquisitiveness into nature's mysteries, which is my design. In the prosecution of which if I ever attain unto any thing worthy, I must acknowledge the reading of you begot those aspirings; whilst I confess myself therefore ever obliged

Your in all humble returns

of thanks and service,

NATH. FOXCROFT.

MY mother returns her gratitude in all humble acknowledgments of thanks for the medicine you presented her at *Oxon*; and desires you will signify, whether it was spirit of hart's-horn or not, as likewise when you design to be in *London*.

Mr. RA. AUSTEN *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Oxon, Jan.* 14, 1664.

I SHALL at this time make bold to acquaint you with my purpose, in reference to a business of some concernment, much desiring your favour, counsel, and directions therein: and where you perceive I have presumed too much with you, that therein I may receive a friendly rebuke, together with your pardon. I was lately discoursing with a stationer (newly set up here in *Oxford*) who discovered to me his desire to have another impression of my treatise of fruit trees; for that this second impression is even sold off. I told him, that I would consider of it, and give him a further answer. The truth is, I have several additions to make unto it, intending (God willing) to communicate them in due time: it may be, it is now not unseasonable.

AND in order thereunto I have made bold to compose a brief epistle dedicatory unto your worthy self, humbly craving your leave so to do: a copy whereof I thought it meet to include herein, that you might see my design, and that I might obtain your advice upon the whole matter. I now intend only the first part, that is, the natural part, about the propagation and ordering of divers kinds of forest trees, with fruit trees, and fruit.

As for the spiritual part (the similitudes between natural and spiritual fruit trees) I conceive it best upon some accounts, to let it rest (at present) both what hath been made public formerly, and what I have prepared to add thereunto: and (worthy Sir) by your countenancing of the work, it will be more profitable to myself, and more acceptable to others. Your name and worthiness is had in high esteem among men, who know you, or have heard of you; God having (visibly) stamped his image upon you, in knowledge, wisdom, and holiness; it commands reverence and respect,

where

where it appears, especially when we consider what the apostle saith, that not many wise men after the flesh, not many noble are called. Those therefore among them that are called, are as precious jewels and pearls among pebbles; or as the lily among thorns; such being doubly noble, not only by a natural birth, but also (and infinitely more) by a spiritual birth; a birth from above, born of God, without which a man had better never to have been born.

SIR, these things I speak in sincerity and truth.

I SHALL not further trouble you at present, more than to desire (at your next opportunity) a few words of counsel and advice from you (much honoured Sir) unto

Your unworthy servant,

RA. AUSTEN.

From the bishop of Limerick *to Mr.* R. BOYLE.

Honoured and dear SIR, *Farnham-Castle, Dec.* 3, 1665.

THOUGH I cannot give you a church preferment, I do give you a church employment. For I dare venture on your goodness, and flatter myself that you will not be displeased for my so doing.

THIS act, which you receive with this letter, I shewed to my lord chancellor at *Salisbury* for his approbation; but he liked it not as to the form and drawing up: yet withal advised me that it should not be presented to the council, until the form thereof were altered in a new bill from *Dublin:* and that the archbishop of *Dublin* might know how it might be amended; his lordship was pleased to say, that he would give by the next post the reasons of his dislike to my lord lieutenant, which reasons are not yet come to his grace.

THE favour I beg of you is this; that after my humblest service is presented to my good lord chancellor, you will desire of his lordship to impart to you the faults of that bill, that it may be amended in the next.

I GIVE you, Sir, this trouble, the rather because I know you have a fair reception from his lordship, and will therefore obtain this favour the easier.

WHAT answer you receive from his lordship, if you please to send to Mr. *Wyat*, vice-principal of St. *Mary-Hall*, you will further oblige,

Your most affectionate,

and real servant,

GUIL. LIMERICK.

MY lord of *Winchester* remembers him very kindly to you.

Dr. EDMUND KING *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *London, from Boswell-court, Nov.* 25, 1667.

PERHAPS at first sight you will wonder at my confidence in presuming to present you with a letter; but if you please to consider my great obligations to love and honour you, I hope I need make no apology for it, unless for want of language to express your worth, and my deep sense of it: for in earnest, Sir, I find by experience, that great thoughts are of difficult birth, and I do blush at the defects of my expressive faculty; yet I will encourage myself with this, that the account of the following experiments will (for this time) purchase my pardon for giving you the trouble

trouble of it. Dr. *Lower* procured a man about thirty-two years of age, willing to receive some sheep's blood (they call him Dr. *Cogie*, he speaks *Latin* well when he is in that company he likes) his brain is sometimes a little too warm. On *Saturday* morning last at eleven at *Arundel* house we met, and having prepared the carotid of sheep, I opened a vein in the doctor's arm at once, as expressed in the last Transactions but one; and used just that method, without any alteration (only one pipe more convenient) after we had taken a way about ℥vii. of the doctor's blood, we infused (as near as we could guess) about x. or ℥xi. of the sheep's blood, with very little trouble to him, three quills length beside the pipe; yet when we took it out, after near two minutes, it ran as fresh as at first, which was an infallible sign it did not stop, but besides we felt a pulse in the arm: when we had done, we bound up the arm as after blood-letting, and he well and merry, and drank a glass or two of Canary, and took a pipe of tobacco in the presence of forty or more persons; so went home, and continued well all day, having three or four stools as he did use to have; his pulse stronger and fuller than before; and he very sober and quiet, more than before, as the people in the house tell us that he was only let blood; in the night he slept well, but sweat two or three hours, and next day was very well, and so remains, and is very willing to have it repeated (we gave him a guinea for his willingness) for his arm, he says, is well. This is a general account of it; I did intend to be more particular, but am forced to break off abruptly, for which I most humbly intreat your pardon, which will farther oblige,

Honoured Sir,

your most obedient, faithful, and affectionate,

EDM. KING.

ONE asked him, why he had not some other creature's blood, he told them, that *sanguis ovis symbolicam quamdam facultatem habet cum sanguine Christi; quia Christus est agnus Dei.* You would have smiled if you had heard him.

Mr. ANTHONY SMITH *to Mr.* RO. BOYLE.

Truly Honoured SIR, *Exon, Feb.* 28, 1667.

THE unquestionable assurance you have given the world, that it is your work to glorify your Maker, and manifest true love to mankind in your indefatigable pains, vast expence, and benevolent mind, so freely to communicate what your unparalleled industry by search, your judicious observation by trial, and your capacious mind by improvement, have found beneficial to mankind: these, with the advantages I have had by your essays, and other writings (which you ought to have the comfort of) and my present necessity, have levelled all the mountains that were in my way to you. Worthy Sir, this is the case. Here is a gentlewoman of *Woodbury*, six miles distant, who hath laboured with a cancer in her right breast these eight or nine years, in the use of variety of means to small purpose; at length nature seemed to make a separation between the cancerated and sound breast, such as you often see where a caustic hath been applied, the eschar divides between the living and the dead; this was taken off by a certain empiric in *Somersetshire*, but a few months after it riseth again with renewed strength, and then the whole breast was taken off by my hand, with some portion of the musculus pectoralis, upon which it is placed; the most suspicious places cauterised with actual and potential cauteries. Upon this she continues well some years, brings forth a child, nursed it with the other breast, weans her child, has the benefit of nature monthly, conceives again, brings forth a second birth, sends this

this babe to nurſe abroad; after a year or two the old cicatrix begins to heave up with a hard compact body, like the kidney of an ox, which made haſte to ſhew itſelf, and began to heave up the cutis, (which did adhere faſt to the ribs before) and though looſe under, yet began to pain. Addreſs being made to me, I opened the part, and took it out, which was in a few months grown as big as any ordinary fiſt: this alſo was well in a ſhort time, and ſo continued for two years and upward; but about laſt *Whitſuntide* ſhe felt a little pain, and found a ſmall collection very hard and deep in, as if it lay between the ribs in the intercoſtal muſcles; this we obſerved, and often ſtirred to keep it from fixing, which was hard to do. At length it became very painful, and grew like a fungus, and ſpread every way up under the arm-pit to a vaſt magnitude; ſo that we were forced, *Saturday* the 15th inſtant, in the preſence of Dr. *Thruſton*, to take it off, which is the fourth time ſhe hath felt this dreadful operation. I have applied oleum vitriolum to the roots; the eſchars are deep, for I began them with lixivium ſaponis, and touch them over with cauſtic oils every day. Now, honoured Sir, having read in your Eſſays, Part II. pag. 112. that you have a friend that hath ſome arcanum in the caſe, give me leave to beg your help. I have heard that you have ſome rare elective vomit, that frees the body from this noxious humour: ſuch things you have helped me to believe there are, by what I have experimented in your Eſſays, and did I not fear I ſhould be denied all by aſking too much at once, I would pray for ſome light into your Ens Veneris, but I forbear, hoping to live to ſee you once more. Let me beg leave to tell you what muſt needs delight you. I have had the greateſt and moſt undeniable ſucceſs with the uſe of your paronychia rutæ foliis (I ſuppoſe) that ever you ſaw, upon a perſon of ſome quality, who had a very great tumour in the pharynx, filling up all that capacity under the tonſillæ from ſide to ſide, even externally to the parotydes, hindering ſpeech, breath, and ſwallowing too; which to admiration, to my great comfort, and profit, are all vaniſhed; and although they were ſome years collecting, they came to ſuppuration like a common natural phlegmon, and wanted little more than dry lint to heal them. But I ſuppoſe the gentlewoman uſed more than a buſhel of that ſmall plant, for I made ſyrup of it to uſe in the latter part of the ſummer and winter when the plant cannot be had; and I am confident thoſe that fail of a cure, it is becauſe they are weary of the medicine, before the maſs of blood hath received any conſiderable alteration from it. I could ſay a great deal of this and your reſ. jalapii, pil. lunares, *&c.* But I am too bold, I beſeech you excuſe me. I ſhall beg the bearer to receive a line or two from you; for our eyes are upon you, under God, for ſome relief in this great caſe; mean while reſt,

SIR,

your real ſervant (were I able)

ANTHONY SMITH.

Dr. SYDENHAM *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Pall-Mall, April* 2, 1668.

IT had becomed me to have begged your acceptance, when I took the boldneſs to tender to you the ſecond edition of my book; but partly buſineſs, and partly an unwillingneſs in me to give you two troubles at once, diverted me from writing. But now that you are pleaſed to give yourſelf the pains of a thanks, which I never thought myſelf capable of deſerving from you, I hold myſelf obliged to return you my humble thanks, that you take in good part my weak endeavours, and are pleaſed to have a concern (as you always have done) for me. I perceive my friend Mr. *Locke* hath troubled

troubled you with an account of my practice, as he hath done himself in visiting with me very many of my variolous patients especially. It is a disease, wherein as I have been more exercised this year than ever I thought I could have been, so I have discovered more of its days than ever I thought I should have done. It would be too large for a letter, to give you an account of its history; only in general I find no cause, from my best observation, to repent of any thing said by me in my tract *De Variolis*, but do greatly, that I did not say, that, considering the practices that obtain, both amongst learned and ignorant physicians, it had been happy for mankind, that either the art of physic had never been exercised, or the notion of malignity never stumbled upon. As it is palpable to all the world, how fatal that disease proves to many of all ages, so it is most clear to me, from all the observations that I can possibly make, that if no mischief be done, either by physician or nurse, it is the most slight and safe of all other diseases. If it shall be your hap to be seized of that disease (as probably you never may) I should recommend to you, upon the word of a friend, the practice mentioned in the 155th page of my book. I confess, some accidents there are incident to that disease, which I never was able to master, till towards the end of the last summer, and which therefore could not be mentioned by me, as a phrenitis coming on the eighth day, where the patient is in the vigour of his youth, hath not been blooded, and hath been kept in a dose from his first decumbiture; as likewise (which is wont to be no less fatal) a great dosing, accompanied with a choaking respiration, coming on from the tenth day (reckoning from the rigour and horror, which is my way of accounting) and occasioned by the matter of a ptyalism in a flux-pox, baking and growing thick, as it declines and comes to a concoction in those days. But, which is observable, the small-pox never fluxes or runs together, but it hath been thrust out before the fourth day; and where you see any eruption the first, second, or third day from the decumbiture, you may safely pronounce it will be a flux-pox, or a measle, for that sort in its first appearance is like it; and, which is likewise observable in the highest flux of all, as that which comes out the first or second day, it is in vain to endeavour the raising them to an height, for it is both impossible and unsafe to attempt, but all the discharge that can be, must be either from a ptyalism, in a grown person, or a diarrhœa, in an infant, to whom the same is no more dangerous than the other to the former. And wherever they flux, their discharge must be made one of those two ways. But of these things I shall discourse to you more at large, when I shall have the happiness to see you, which I hope may be suddenly. The town stands well in health, and at our end not any body sick, that I hear, of the small-pox. I have much business about other things, and more than I can do, who yet am not idle. I have the happiness of curing my patients, at least of having it said concerning me, that few miscarry under me; but cannot brag of my correspondency with some other of my faculty, who, notwithstanding my profoundness in palmistry and chemistry, impeach me of great insufficiency, as I shall likewise do my taylor, when he makes my doublet like a hop-sack, and not before, let him adhere to what hypothesis he will. Though yet in taking fire at my attempts to reduce practice to a greater easiness and plainness, and in the mean time letting the mountebank at *Charing-cross* pass unrailed at, they contradict themselves, and would make the world believe I may prove more considerable than they would have me. But to let these men alone to their books, I have again taken breath, and am pursuing my design of specifics, which, if but a delusion, so closely haunts me, that I could not but indulge the spending of a little money and time at it once more. I have made a great progress in the thing, and have reason to hope not to be disappointed. My occasions will not suffer me to give you more trouble, and therefore be pleased to accept of the

tender of thoſe very unfeigned thanks, which I here make you, for all the ſingular kindneſſes and favours whereby you have obliged me to be very uncomplimentally,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

T. SYDENHAM.

G. AGRICOLA *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Noble SIR, *Tonningen, April* 6, 1668.

I PRAY you excuſe my boldneſs, for troubling you with this letter, but I hope your civility will pardon my fault. It is almoſt ten years ago ſince I went out of *England*, and as I dwelt with Mr. *Frederic Clodius*, I had the happineſs and honour to ſee your nobleneſs, and to wait upon you in our laboratory, and afterwards coming into *Holſatiam*, I have ſeveral times, very honourably, remembered your great ſkill *in philoſophia experimentali* to our learned doctors and noblemen; but as I got one of your books, *viz. Chemiſta Scepticus*, I performed that ſame, which I had ſpoken of you, and every one learned man deſireth to read your learned books, and wiſheth, that the Lord in heaven may ſave you long to ſerve *in publicum bonum*. Some of your writings we have got more, *viz. Experimenta Phyſico-Mechanica, & defenſionem contra Linum*; *tractatum de Coloribus: Tentamina quædam Phyſiologica*; *Hiſtoriam fluiditatis & firmitatis*; Some Conſideration touching the Uſefulneſs of Experimental Natural Philoſophy; and daily we read in the *Journal des Sçavans* of your great experiments; ſo that your nobleneſs cauſeth, that the lord *Jean Samuel Heiſterman de Vilberg* (which being by our highneſs the duke of *Holſtein*, his ſecret counſellor and of ſtate, and præfectus provinciarum, *Eideroſtadæ*, *Everſhap*, and *Utholm*, a very noble man, and a great ſcholar, loving phyſic, chemiſtry, and many other gallant experiences) did deſire of me to take the boldneſs to write to you, and to remember his duty to you, though yet unknown to you, and to tell you a ſtrange accident, as followeth.

ONE of his greyhounds being tormented ſuddenly three days together with great pains in his guts with vomiting, he died the third day of this month *April*, and this nobleman deſired of the hangman's ſervant, that he might open this dog in a ſtable of the court at *Tonningen*, where this dog did die, and there were preſent by this opening, 1. myſelf, 2. our *Secretarius Provincialis frater germanus domini Heiſtermanni*, 3. his ſteward, 4. his hunting-man, and 5. his coachman. But *conſiliarius Heiſterman* was called for *Gottorp* to the duke. And all the internal parts of this dog's body were found very wholſome, and every part was cut in pieces with a knife, and there was no where yet, neither in the brain, found any cauſe of his great torments and ſudden death, except *in veſicula fellis, quæ totaliter bile erat repleta, & valde tranſparens, in medio autem veſicæ tranſparebat corpus quoddam candidum*; *itaque juſſi incidere veſicam fellis, & ecce prodibat fruſtulum de teſta oſtreæ recens adhuc, ac internè ſplendens more ſolito*; *magnitudo ejus parum excedebat nummum Anglicanum* a ſix-pence, *eratque in margine valde acutum*. Now I remember, that doctor *Needham* writeth (in his book called *Diſquiſitio Anatomica de formato fœtus*, and which he hath dedicated unto you) *contra Bilſium, quod nullus chylus deferatur per venas miſeraicas vulgares & lacteas ad hepar*; *& hic quæritur, per quas vias tranſiverit fruſtulum de teſta oſtreæ ad veſicam fellis. D. Van Hoorne profeſſor in academia Lugdunenſi ſcribit quidem in ſuo prodromo obſervationum de partibus generationis hæc verba*; *Coronidis loco hoc addam, oculari demonſtratione me exhibere poſſe ingreſſum chyli in venas meſeraicas vulgares. Hactenus Van Hoorne*: *quod ſi hoc verum eſſet, tum ſtatica daretur via per ramum venæ portæ ad hepar, & ſic ad veſicam fellis, quamvis*

nulla

nulla tam ampla vaſa in meſenterio reperiantur; ſed hæc, nobiliſſime domine, tuo judicio & acutiſſimo ingenio ſubjicimus. Moreover deſireth the lord *Heiſterman*, if your nobleneſs would be pleaſed to ſend an anſwer upon this queſtion, and he wiſheth to be ſo happy, and to be hence acquainted with you by letters: laſtly he deſireth (becauſe he did read it in the *Journal des Sçavans*, that in *England* ſhould be very good magnifying glaſſes or microſcopia) and beggeth, if poſſible, to have the honour of your nobleneſs, and to be inſtructed of you, where the beſt magnifying glaſſes are to be got in *London*, and ſo ſoon as I can get an anſwer of you, where ſuch microſcopia are to be ſold, and what they coſt, then Dom. Præfectus will give preſently order to a certain merchant in *London*, which ſhall buy one or two for him. But, Sir, I beſeech you not to take it unkindly, that we are troubleſome to you; and if we can do you any favour or ſervice in our countries, we ſhall be not only willing, but always expedient to ſerve you. No more for this time, but that the Lord in heaven may bleſs you for ever.

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

Johannes Chriſtianus Agricola,

med. doct. & poliater Tonningenſis.

POSTSCRIPT.

I PRAY you, Sir, not to take it evil, that I do write to you in *Engliſh*, though it be not written according to the rules of your *Engliſh* maſters; but the reaſon is, I would not forget my *Engliſh*; and if I ſhall have the honour to expect an anſwer of you, I pray you would be pleaſed to add where you dwell now at this preſent time in *London*. *Vale.*

Mr. THOMAS COXE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Rome, May* 2, 1670, N. S.

IN that application I ventured to make to you from *Venice*, I had not the vanity to pretend, that ſo ſmall an expreſſion of my duty ſhould receive ſo noble a reward, as that of your letter by this laſt poſt: but ſince you are pleaſed ſo favourably, and with ſo great condeſcenſion to encourage my zeal to your ſervice and patronage; I cannot be ſo unconcerned to my own advantage, as not to make much of your preſent favours, and wiſh the continuation of them for the future.

I HUMBLY thank you for the honour you have done me, of communicating to me his majeſty's curioſity to ſee and know ſome of your own experiments, performed in his preſence by your own hand; and that the king is like to be ſo great a patron of the virtuoſi, as to bring their concerns into his houſe, and to liſt them of his family. I pray God Almighty confirm his majeſty in theſe generous reſolutions, of encouraging the young nobility of the nation to virtue, true gallantry of mind, and all excellent knowledge, by the powerful motive of his royal example.

WE have been for ſome months in great expectation of what the conclave would produce, which hath been ſhut up ever ſince *December* 20, N. S. 1669, and were in great danger either of leaving *Rome* without a pope, or of being forced to expect the creation of one all this ſummer, to the hazard of our health, and diſappointment of our future deſigns in other parts; the two great oppoſite factions of *France* and *Spain*, and the third of the ſquadrone volante (unable either to balance or reconcile the

former) remaining ſo ſtiff and unalterable in their different parties, as gave us little hopes of any timely agreement.

BUT on *Tueſday* laſt, *April* 29, N. S. we were moſt unexpectedly ſurpriſed at dinner, with the news of the election of cardinal *Altieri*, a *Roman*, who was the very firſt perſon propoſed after the entry into the conclave. About five in the afternoon the ſame day, he was proclaimed to the people, by the name of *Clemens* X. and preſently after received the keys and adoration of the cardinals in St. *Peter*'s. He is a man of eighty-one years of age, of the laſt pope's promotion to the cap, and was ſome time his Mro. di Camera: his election paſſed with the votes of all the cardinals but one, as a convenient perſon, becauſe of his age, and indifferency to all factions, to depoſite the popedom with, for ſome little time.

HE hath no nephew, but has reſolved upon monſieur *Palutti* (his near relation) for cardinal patron, upon monſieur *Carpegno* for ſecretary; but is yet uncertain in the choice of his Mro. di Cameri, and Datario. It is hoped we may ſee his coronation on *Sunday* next, and the grand cavalcade on that day ſevennight.

FATHER *Kercher*, the marcheſe *d'Olivala Maleſpina*, ſignior *Carlo Mancini*, and other virtuoſi in this city, do me the honour to ſpeak to me often of your name, and of your excellent treatiſes and experiments. I humbly pray the favour of you to give order, that ſome of thoſe you have lately ſhewn the king, be communicated to me, that I may do myſelf the credit with theſe gentlemen of giving them the account and relation of them. I have no other requeſt to add, but to beg the tender of my moſt humble duty and ſervice to my lady *Ranelagh*, and the young ladies; with my acknowledgments for this noble favour conferred upon,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt humble,

and moſt obedient ſervant,

THOMAS COXE.

Honoured SIR,

AS I am putting up this letter, I hear, that this parola (or morning-audience) the pope hath declared monſieur *Borromeo* (at preſent nuncio in *Spain*) his ſecretary of ſtate; monſieur *Maſſimi* his Mro. di Camera; and monſieur *Carpegno* his pro-datario.

Mr. LEONARD HOAR *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Right Honourable, *Cambridge*, *New-England*, *December* the 13th, 1672.

YOUR freedom and courteous treating me, when hither coming, giveth me the hardineſs to preſent you with my acknowledgments, although it be but your interpellation; judging it better, that I were cenſured for troubleſomeneſs, than for ingratitude. Yea the chiefeſt of this colony, a poor, but yet pious and induſtrious people, know and acknowledge your kindneſs often and on conſiderable occaſions expreſſed towards them, in their juſt defences, *&c.* although they know not where or how to publiſh their tabula votiva, or memorials of it under your acceptation, but ſtill do gratefully recommend you and your well-devoted labours in their prayers to God; and any public affair them concerning, that ſhall unexpectedly emerge unto your prudence, love and candor, hoping, that nothing ſhall ever be believed or concluded againſt them before that they be heard.

NOBLE Sir, I am not unmindful of your deſires to ſee what rarities the country might yield; and have taken courſe, that now be preſented to you, firſt, a ſort of berries,

berries, that grow closely conglomerated unto the stalk of a shrub, in its leaf, smell and taste, like the broadest leaved myrtle, or to a dwarf-bay; which, by plain distillation, yields an almost unctuous matter; and by decoction, not a resina, nor oil, but a kind of serum, such as I have not known ordinarily for any vegetables. I believe it excels for the wind-colic.

THOUGH I thought myself an indifferent botanist for any thing could grow in *England*, yet here in our wild plants I am presently [at a loss] but I hope I shall in season search out their pedigrees; and would be free to gratify any person valuing them with their seeds, or bodies dried. Mr. *Alexander Balaam*, my master in those studies, and a person well known to Mr. *Charles Howard* and Dr. *Morrison*, is now in your land.

ALSO (pardon, I beseech you, the confidence) I make bold to present your honour with a model of our natives ships. With one of them twenty feet long they will carry six or eight persons, their house and furniture and provisions, by one padling her forwards in the stern, swifter than any sculler. And when they come to falls, or would go over the land, [the passengers] load themselves away with the ship and her freight too.

I DOUBT they are not for the wars; for if you but stamp hard, you may strike out the bottom; and if you lay your tongue on one side of your mouth, it may overset.

ALSO, Sir, a piece of their plate, a fish I call a sea-spider, and some stones, I doubt more ponderous than precious; but that your honour will prove.

IT hath pleased even all to assign the college for my *Sparta*. I desire I may adorn it; and thereby encourage the country in its utmost throws for its resuscitation from its ruins. And we still hope some helpers from our native land; of which your honoured self, Mr. *A.* and some others have given a pledge.

A LARGE well-sheltered garden and orchard for students addicted to planting; an ergasterium for mechanic fancies; and a laboratory chemical for those philosophers, that by their senses would culture their understandings, are in our design, for the students to spend their times of recreation in them; for readings or notions only are but husky provender.

AND, Sir, if you will please of your mature judgment and great experience to deign us any other advice or device, by which we may become not only nominal, but real scholars, it shall, I hope, be as precious seed, of which both you and me and many by us shall have uberous provent at the great day of reckoning, which I know you do respect above all.

IF I durst, I would beg one of a sort of all your printed monuments, to enrich our library, and encourage our attempts this way.

I KNOW nothing so stunting our hopes and labours in this way, as that we want one of a sort of the books of the learned, that come forth daily in *Europe*, of whose very names we are therefore ignorant.

To Mr. *Ashhurst* I have written more. Let not, I beseech you, my prolixity tire or deter your acception of things hinted, or your honour's condonation of

Your devoted humble servant,

LEONARD HOAR.

Dr.

Dr. ROBERT PLOT *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Oxon, July* 21, 1674.

HAD I not met with ſomething in my travels like to prove conſiderable, I ſhould not have preſumed to trouble you with theſe, though few lines. About three weeks ſince being in queſt of a ſalt ſpring I heard of near *Deddington* in *Oxfordſhire*, I happily made enquiry of a perſon, who told me, that beſide the ſalt one, they had another in the town of an unuſual and very ill ſmell; whereupon I went with him, and found its ſcent to come neareſt that of water, which has been uſed in the cleanſing of a very foul gun, of any thing I can yet ſpeak of; this ſmell, though ſomewhat offenſive, yet the water is clear and potable enough. Next day I made ſome experiment of it, and found after ſeveral trials, that two grains of the powder of galls would turn a whole gallon of a reddiſh colour inclining a little to blue; which after a quarter of an hour would of itſelf (which I much wondered at) as it were curdle, and then changing colour to a deep purple, fall to the bottom of the vial. This ſediment, after filtration and exſiccation, I put upon a red hot iron, and found it after a while to take fire with a quiet ſcintillation, by which I gathered there might be ſome ſmall quantity of nitre, but wondered (as I do ſtill) that no ſulphur (which ſufficiently ſhewed itſelf in the odour of the water) did alſo betray itſelf in this operation. On another parcel of this ſediment I put aqua fortis, which do work (though but weakly) upon it, by which I collected there might be ſomething alſo of iron. Next day I diſtilled it with an eaſy heat, and neither that, which came over, or which remained in the glaſs body, after half a pint was diſtilled, retained any ſmell, taſte, or other properties, that might diſtinguiſh it from ordinary ſpring-water diſtilled; for permitting the fire to extinguiſh to try what kind of precipitate would fall; and filtring the remaining part of the water to get the ſediment, I found, that neither that which came over, or what remained, kept the ſame ſmell, or would give any tincture with galls, as it did before ſeparation from the ſediment, which being dried, was nothing neither but an inſipid pale red calx. This I could have tried ſeveral ways, but the town yielding neither ſpirits or oils fit for the purpoſe, I left the place, and continued my journey, but with this contentation from what I then ſaw, that it comes very near (that I ſay not wholly up) to the *German Spa* water, if its anatomy, that I have met with in ſome authors, be rightly laid down. However, I think I ſhould ſcarce have given you the trouble of this account, but that I hear ſince it has ſo far prevailed, that ſeveral perſons, and that of quality, have left *Aſtrop* waters for this, and that of all ſorts, there have been to the number of forty perſons drinking at a time. Several other natural things of uſe and value I have met with in this country, which in ſhort are theſe: a ſpungy white earth, which from its uſe we may call native lime, for without the help of fire it has been uſed not only to paint walls, but to white cielings with good ſucceſs: it does not ſlake like lime in the water, and therefore I take it to be the gypſum nativum of *Euſebius*, or rather the ſame ſort of gypſum, which *Pliny*, lib. xxxvi. cap. 24. calls gypſum Tymphaicum, which he ſays is digged è ſummâ tellure, and ſo is this. 2. I have met with a ſort of ſand ſo indiſtinguiſhable from that we call *Calais* ſand, that it has been ſold for as much (becauſe for uſes as good) as that commonly is, that is by retale for one penny *per* pound, which amounts to about 1 *l.* 5 *s.* the buſhel. 3. A tolerable good umber, which the glovers like pretty well to colour their wares with. 4. The hooping bird, and a linnet perfectly white. 5. A *Roman* pavement, called by *Pliny*, lib. xxxvi. cap. 25. Lithoſtratum: theſe pavements he ſays were made parvis e teſtulis, tinctiſque

in

in varios colores, and so is this ploughed up in this county of *Oxon.* I have not forgotten to observe the variation of the compass, according to your desire, but fear I have been less accurate in this, because I find the cabin compass, which you advised me to buy, to be much too little; and by reason of its roundness, unfit to lay to the meridian line, when found. I believe, therefore, that a compass might be continued purposely for this use, with a needle of five or six inches long, set in an oblong box, whose side should be exactly parallel to the line of north and south: the needle need not play above thirteen or fourteen degrees on each side the points, the variation never being more. I would have the needle also to be taken off and put on at pleasure, to prevent spoiling in my journies. I have met with several other curiosities in husbandry, plants, stones, antiquities, *&c.* too long to trouble you with now. I shall therefore add no more, but that I am,

SIR,

your most faithful servant,

ROB. PLOT.

Dr. THOMAS MARSHALL *to Mr.* R. BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Lincoln College, Oxon, Oct.* 24, 1676.

YESTERDAY I received from Mr. *Davis*, our bookseller, an unexpected token of your favour, which is so much the greater, as being conferred upon one, who hath never had the opportunity to deserve any part of that honour. Sir, as you have been thus pleased to bring me into a new debt, so my humble request is, you will help me to discharge it, by commanding my poor endeavours in your *Malayan*, or any other noble design; wherein I may express myself to be,

Worthy Sir,

yours ever obliged

to serve and honour you,

THO. MARSHALL.

Mr. LUKE HODGSON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR,

IN my last to my cousin *Killingworth*, I desired him (not knowing, who is present secretary to the Royal Society) to give you a letter long since sent to Mr. *Oldenburg*, in answer to some doubts concerning our subterraneal fire near *Newcastle*; and I waited my friend's answer (in which I expected to understand, how satisfactory my reasons therein were to the Royal Society) had not the ingenious Mr. *Samuel Hutchinson*, now residing with us, persuaded me rather to write more immediately to yourself, and to acquaint you, that it is not altogether the many businesses he has to do, that prevents his writing; but the desire he hath first to be able to present you with such various sorts of lead and other sorts of ores he hath melted down in the first furnace he hath built, and then he intends at large to give you an account of the success of his undertakings. Only at present he desired me to inform you, that the salts of the fire, and other salts to be had in great plenty here, are sufficient to furnish him with fluxes at the rate of a farthing a pound, which will do his business as well as tartar peter, or pot-ashes. He gave me also the two following certificates from persons of good credit, who were present, when he melted down several sorts of

of lead ores, and ſlag of lead ores, into good malleable lead, ſeveral of which I ſaw myſelf; and ſuppoſe by what ſmall trial I made to be as ductile, malleable, and as unapt to crack as any lead we have here; ſo that if it ſucceed at the ſame rate in larger quantities as it doth in this furnace, there are none with us doubt of the ſucceſs of his undertaking. Neither is that any ſcruple with me, but rather, that his larger furnaces may ſpend coal to no purpoſe, for want of ſufficient quantity of ore to ſupply them. Sir, I doubt not, but when Mr. *Hutchinſon*'s buſineſs is ſettled, we be able to furniſh you with an account of ſuch various experiments, as may be uſeful to all, who deſire to penetrate into the dark receſſes of nature, which will collaterally fall out in this work. What remains is to beg your pardon for this trouble, and to deſire as a token thereof, you will pleaſe vouchſafe two or there lines to

Your much humble ſervant,

LUKE HODGSON.

MEMORANDUM. That this 5th of *April* 1678, we were at *Sam. Hutchinſon*'s houſe at *Walſende* near *Newcaſtle*, where he had built a furnace in his brewhouſe, and there ſaw him melt down both lead ore and ſlag of lead into good and malleable lead, with ſea-coal, without any wood, or wood-coal, and do conceive it may be a good and profitable invention, eſpecially in this country, where coals are ſo cheap and plentiful.

HENRY BLAND,
CHRISTOPHER HUTCHINSON,
THOMAS HALL,
WILLIAM HINDMARSH,
HECTOR GILLROY.

WE, whoſe names are here ſubſcribed, were preſent at the houſe of *Samuel Hutchinſon* at *Walſende* near *Newcaſtle*, where he had built a furnace in his brewhouſe, and there ſaw him make an effectual demonſtration in melting down lead-ore with ſea-coal only, without any wood or wood-coal, into good malleable lead, rather better and cloſer, and more ſoft than we have ſeen in their ordinary way, and conceive the ſame to be a very profitable invention. Dated this of *April* 1678.

ROBERT DELAVAL,
RICHARD HINDMARSH,
RICHARD COLE.

The earl of BURLINGTON *to Mr.* RO. BOYLE.

My deareſt Brother, *Londeſburgh, Aug.* 24, 1681.

I SHALL in this enquire after your health, in which I heartily wiſh you may find a conſtant improvement, and that the violence of the ſmall-pox may be ſo much abated, that you may return to your *London* apartment, where I hope about the end of the next month, or very ſoon after, to wait upon you; though I muſt confeſs unto you, that my reſidence here is not at all diſpleaſing unto me. We long to hear to what place or country the *French* king will this ſummer addreſs his armies: if to *Caſall* he will certainly alarm all *Italy*, if they be not in a deep lethargy: if he intends only to enlarge his conqueſts by meering and bounding, *Flanders* is the moſt proper place for that kind of acquiſition, ſince he has nothing to do but to aſk, threaten, and have what he pleaſes to demand, which is certainly a very eaſy way of

getting, as it is a new one. I am heartily ſorry he extends his power againſt the poor proteſtants with ſo much vigour; but God, who puts a bound to the raging of the ſeas, can put a hook into his noſtrils when it is his good pleaſure. My wife and grandchildren are your moſt humble ſervants, and I am

Yours moſt faithfully,

BURLINGTON.

Dr. HUTTON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Paris, Sept.* 1, 1682.

THE incloſed is from monſieur *Lemery*, who ſends you his book of the fourth edition, with a preface of a conſiderable work in anatomy by two phyſicians of *Geneva*, an account of whom you may have at large from my worthy and learned friend Dr. *Hamilton*, governor to my lord *Gorenbury*, who hath been intimate with the authors, and witneſs to much of their labour theſe four years paſt, and pleaſed to favour himſelf and me to carry this to your hands. It is like, I am out of your remembrance, it being ſome few years ago ſince I had the honour to be with you at your houſe in the *Pall-Mall*, *London:* however, I will think myſelf happy, if I could render any ſervice to you here, or when elſewhere. The bearer can give you my addreſs, if you think fit to ſend a return to monſieur *Lemery*. I continue,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

HUTTON.

Incloſed in the preceding.

Monſieur, *A Paris, ce* 17 *Aouſt,* 1682.

PArdonnez, s'il vous plaiſt, a la liberté, que je prends de vous eſcrire, ſans avoir l'honneur d'eſtre connu de vous. Je n'ignore point la grande reputation, que vous vous eſtre acquiſe, & je ſerois venu de l'autre monde, ſi je ne ſçavois que vous eſtre l'oracle des ſciences. Il y aurcit long temps que j'aurois pris cette hardieſſe, ſi je n'euſſe eſperé avoir l'honneur de vous voir a Londres, mais preſentement je ne ſçay pas ſi j'iray, j'ay trouvé l'occaſion d'un ami, qui s'eſt bien voulu charger de ce petit paquet. Vous y trouverez dedans la preface d'un grand ouvrage anatomique, qu'ont entrepris deux medicins de Geneve; ils demandent avis a tous les ſçavans de France, d'Angleterre, & d'Hollande ſur leur deſſein; je l'ay accompagnée d'un exemplaire d'un traité de chymie, que j'ay compoſé. Vous en aurez, peut eſtre oui parler, puis qu'on la traduit en Anglois: c'eſt une 4 *edition, où j'ay ajouſté beaucoup de choſes: il ſera bien heureux, s'il trouve place dans voſtre bibliotheque: ce ſera un grand honneur pour luy, & l'autheur vous en aura beaucoup d'obligation. Je ſuis avec reſpect,*

Monſieur,

Voſtre tres humble, &

tres obeiſſant ſerviteur,

LEMERY.

Dr. ROBERT TOOPE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured Sir, *Bath, April* 5, 1683.

SINCE my return into the country I have been very ill in a fever, or elſe this had (to promiſe) flown ſooner to your hands. In the year 1678, about the latter end of *February*, (I then lived in *Marlborough*) I was ſent for to one Mrs. *Corle*, of *Freſhford* near *Bath*, who laboured in a fever; and I took in my pocket a whole ounce of *Spaniſh* flies pulveriſed *groſſo modo*, for I uſually draw bliſters with little bags; and after I had filled two or three bags, which could not contain above a drachm, I lapped all up in a double paper, and ſtuck it between an iron bar and the glaſs in the gentlewoman's chamber window, the window looking towards the ſouth, and I went off and left my flies as before. About thirteen or fourteen months after, *April* or *May* come twelve-month, I was ſent for to one Mr. *Sloper* of *Tunbridge* (three miles from *Freſhford*) brother to the gentlewoman Mrs. *Corle*; and when I came I found my patient Mrs. *Corle* there; I told her I muſt bliſter her brother, and ſpoke to have the apothecary ſent for, on which ſhe told me ſhe could have brought old ones, if not young ones enough; for, ſaid ſhe, cleaning my chamber window two days ſince, I took down a paper of *Spaniſh* flies you left there ever ſince my laſt ſickneſs; and when I opened your paper, there was multitudes of little flies like your old ones, and being afraid of their motion, I haſtily and rudely lapped it up again, and put the paper where I had it. Then I grew warm and impatient to ſee the phœnix from its aſhes; ſhe freely offered her man to fetch me the paper, which I accepted of, and then ſaw with my own eyes, and many others beſides myſelf, thouſands of them creeping and crawling about moſt exactly ſhaped to the old flies, long and ſmall their wings, as long as their bodies, but of a very faint glittering and ſhining colour. I kept ſome of them in boxes with fruit and leaves, and they waxed bigger; and the bigger they grew various colours came on. My children obſerving my often viſiting and feeding my little fry, in my abſence deſtroyed my ſtock.

I PRAY, Sir, give me a taſte of that bleſſed oil, of which you promiſed the way of confecting; and that of refining tin, given you by one *Wilden* as I take it, for I reſolve to work upon that body, ſo much have I ſeen to encourage me; and when I am at a loſs or ſtand, I ſhall beg your aſſiſtance, and whatever I do in this kind or any other way, I will communicate and return it back again, as the little rivulets pays the main ocean.

SIR, you muſt pardon the rudeneſs of my long nonſenſical ſtory; but, if I miſtake not, ſuch ſtories as theſe ought ſo to be told, that no ſuch circumſtances be omitted, for many times the whole matter lies couched under circumſtances (though the caſe does not here ſo appear) you may give it what philoſophical dreſs you pleaſe. Worthy and honoured Sir, I am,

Yours to command,

ROBERT TOOPE.

To me at the poſt-houſe in *Bath*, *Somerſetſhire*.

Viſe remitte vale.

Mr. WILLIAM PENN *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

My worthy friend, *Philadelphia, Aug.* 5, 1683.

I COULD not let my agent go without a letter directed to ſo worthy and ingenious a friend; though I can ſay little, that may add to the ſmall account I gave in another letter: only the natives, ſome ore, and ſome flowers and plants I will touch upon.

upon. I find them a people rude, to *Europeans*, in dreſs, geſture, and food; but of a deep natural ſagacity. Say little, but what they ſpeak is fervent and elegant; if they pleaſe, cloſe to the point, and can be as evaſive. In treaties, about land, or traffick, I find them deliberate in council, and as deſigning, as I have ever obſerved among the politeſt of our *Europeans*. I have bought two large tracts, and had two preſented me, which coſt me alike. However, in this they are happy, and even with us, they care and want for little; and if they have not had their paſſions raiſed to the ſame degree after the luxury of *Europe*, by like enjoyments, neither have they the anxieties that follow thoſe pleaſures. They trouble not themſelves about bills of lading, or exchange; nor are they moleſted with chancery ſuits and exchequer accounts. Their reſt is not diſturbed for maintenance; they live by their pleaſures, fowling and fiſhing; the ſons of providence; better without tradition, unleſs that they have got had been better; for the *Dutch*, *Engliſh* and *Swedes* have taught them drunkenneſs. Thus they are the worſe for thoſe they ſhould have been the better for; and this they are not ſo dark as not to ſee, and ſay. So that the low diſpenſation of the poor *Indian* out-ſhines the lives of thoſe Chriſtians, that pretend an higher.

OF ore, here are divers ſorts. I have ſent a little, to ſpend thy judgment upon, which I have delivered to my kinſman, captain *Markham*, to put into thy own hands.

OF plants, here are excellent for medicine and cure of wounds. Some chemiſts intend an obſervation upon them. But immediate cures have been wrought moſt certainly.

OF flowers, I may ſay I never ſaw larger, more variety, richer colours, in the curious gardens of *England*. Of theſe I have ordered my gardener to make a collection againſt the next year. I have a garden prepared by kitchen-ſtuff this year, of two acres, for that and other ſervices. Our town goes on apace; twenty houſes got up ſince my laſt, I ſuppoſe. God has preſerved our health, during the greateſt heats and rains, the oldeſt inhabitant remembers. But the corn, which was plentiful, was firſt in; they reap about ſix weeks before us in *England*; I might ſay two months; for I ſaw barley cut on the third of *May* laſt.

I ADD no more, but if any thing from theſe parts may be agreeable to thee, uſe me freely; for of thy numerous friendſhips, no body is more ſenſible of thy worth, nor more affectionately than I am, without all reſerve,

Worthy friend, thy cordial friend,

WILLIAM PENN.

PRAY give my reſpects to the lady *Ranelagh*.

LET the bearer have thy favour and advice. *Vale.*

Mr. JOHN CLAYTON *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured and worthy Sir, *Virginia, James-City, June* 23, 1684.

IN *England* having peruſed, among the reſt of your admirable treatiſes, that ingenious diſcourſe of the Noctiluca, wherein, as I remember, you gave an account of ſeveral nocturnal irradiations; having therefore met with the relation of a ſtrange accident in that nature, from very good hands, I preſumed this might not prove unwelcome; for the fuller confirmation of which, I have incloſed the very paper colonel *Diggs* gave me thereof, under his own hand and name, to atteſt the truth; the ſame being likewiſe aſſerted to me by Madam *Diggs* his lady, ſiſter to the ſaid *Suſanna Sewall*, daughter to the lord *Baltimore*, lately gone for *England*, who I ſuppoſe may give you fuller ſatisfaction of ſuch particulars as you may be deſirous to be informed of.

I cannot but admire the ſtrangeneſs of ſuch a complicated ſpirit of a volatile ſalt and exalted oil, as I deem it to be, from its crepitation and ſhining flame: how it ſhould tranſpire through the pores, and not be inflamed by the joint motion and heat of the body, and afterwards ſo ſuddenly to be actuated into ſparks by the ſhaking or bruſhing of her coats, raiſes much my wonder.

ANOTHER thing I am confident your honour would be much pleaſed at the ſight of, a fly we have here, called the fire-fly, about the bigneſs of the cantharides; its body of a dark colour, the tail of it a deep yellow by day, which by night ſhines brighter than the glow-worm; which bright ſhining ebbs and flows, as if the fly breathed with a ſhining ſpirit. I pulled the tail of the fly into ſeveral pieces, and every part thereof would ſhine for ſeveral hours after, and caſt a light round it. Be pleaſed favourably to interpret this fond impertinency of a ſtranger. All your works have to the world evidenced your goodneſs, which has encouraged the preſumption, and it is that which bids me hope its pardon. If there be any thing in this country I may pleaſe you in, be pleaſed to command; it will be my ambition to ſerve you, nor ſhall I ſcruple to ride two or three hundred miles to ſatisfy any query you ſhall propound. If you honour me with your commands, you may direct your letter to Mr. *John Clayton*, parſon of *James-City*, *Virginia*.

Your humble ſervant, and, though unknown, your friend,

JOHN CLAYTON.

Mr. JOHN PERCIVAL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honoured SIR, *Dublin, Oct.* 28, 1684.

I DID about a month ſince receive, incloſed in a letter from Sir *Robert Southwell*, a bill of exchange for the ſum of two hundred and fifty pounds, drawn by you upon a gentleman in this kingdom, and payable to me, to be diſtributed to ſuch pious uſes (as Sir *Robert Southwell* informed) as you ſhould direct. Sir *Robert* told me alſo, that you intended ſhortly after to ſend me your inſtructions concerning the diſpoſal thereof. In expectation of which I have the rather forbore to get the bill accepted, being willing to receive your orders how to diſpoſe of the money, before I received it.

SINCE my coming to this place I am informed, that according to the practice of merchants concerning bills of exchange, it may be a hazard unto the drawer of it, to let the bill lie long unaccepted; but which way I myſelf do not well underſtand, unleſs by the breaking of the party who was to accept it, whereof I ſuppoſe there is in this caſe no danger. However, I am thinking as ſoon as I return home to receive the money, and keep it ſealed up, till you pleaſe to order how it ſhall be diſpoſed of, wherein I deſire your inſtructions, which ſhall be very punctually obſerved by,

Honoured Sir,

your moſt faithful, and

very affectionate humble ſervant,

JOHN PERCIVAL.

The earl of Perth *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Right Honourable,

I SHOULD be aſhamed to acknowledge that I know myſelf to be ſo much obliged to you, ſeeing I am ſo little able to demonſtrate my gratitude: but it is a matter of reputation for one to be in your eſteem, and I deſerved very little to have any ſhare in it,

it, if I were ſo ungrate as not once to ſay, that I glory in having the honour to be ſomewhat conſidered by you. I muſt confeſs, that you are one of the perſons in the world I have the greateſt veneration for; that I never am with you, but it gives me a turn of thoughts that are not ſo ordinary to me; and that I either feel myſelf the better by it, or am ſenſible that it is my own fault I am not ſo. All I ſhall ſay then is, that I wiſh you a long life to be a good example and a bleſſing to this age; and that you may ſtill better your great character of being the beſt, the moſt knowing, the moſt charitable, and every way the moſt accompliſhed man of quality of the age in which we live; for the longer you live the greater you appear, which is not the uſual courſe of mankind. What I promiſed to ſatisfy your deſires in concerning this country ſhall be done with all poſſible diligence, for I would court any occaſion, by which I could demonſtrate the leaſt of that great deſire I have to be conſidered by you, as,

Right Honourable,

your moſt obedient, and moſt

faithful affectionate ſervant,

PERTH.

WILL you forgive me, if I preſume in this paper to preſent my humble ſervice to my lady *Ranelagh?*

Mr. JOSEPH HILL *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Rotterdam, April* 20, 1685.

IT is not ſo much the honour I have had of being a little, though but a little known to you, as your innate candour and ingenuity, that makes me preſume to trouble you with this addreſs. And ſo much the rather, becauſe I am well aſſured you will think yourſelf as happy in your acquaintance with this gentleman, as he is ambitious to be known to you, whoſe juſt character of merit is above his quality, though that is very ſufficient, being the eldeſt ſon of Monſieur *Saſburch*, the State's reſident theſe many years at *Bruſſels*, and brother-in law to the king of *Denmark*'s envoy, Monſieur *Lent*, now reſiding with you at *London*. Being ſkilled in many ſeveral languages, and kinds of learning, as the *French*, *Spaniſh*, *German*, and *Italian* tongues, a great lover of chemiſtry, who, by your books, having known your great perfection therein, hath no ſmall ambition to wait upon you. And having never been in *England*, and knowing none here that hath ſo much as ſeen you, requeſting this of me, I have rather preſumed upon your goodneſs, than deny him the writing of a few lines, that may lead him to you. If in any thing I can ſerve your honour here, in books or any other kind of ſervice, you may freely command him, who again deſires to beg your excuſe for this boldneſs, and always to approve himſelf,

Your honour's moſt humble,

and faithful ſervant,

JOSEPH HILL.

The earl of Winchelſea *to Mr.* R. BOYLE.

SIR, *Eaſtwell, Oct.* 13, 1685.

ONE Monſieur *Bouquet*, the bearer hereof, having ſuffered very much lately for his religion ſake, came hither to ſee a couſin of his, that ſerves me. He is eſteemed one of the greateſt chirurgeons in *France* for the king's evil, which he pretends

tends to cure in six days, without leaving any scars. And he is esteemed for an admirable receipt he hath for all agues without the Jesuit's powder, which he cures in a few days; as also for all sorts of cancers. If you please to see him and his attestations at your leisure, I am of the opinion you will find him an able man; and if you give me encouragement, I will endeavour to set him up. He hath lost to the value of seventy thousand livres for his conscience sake, which is a great estate in *France*. I know you are willing always to do good, and therefore I recommend this poor man to you as far as he deserves. He was fain with his sons to run out of the back door of his house as the dragoons came in at the other, and to walk on foot through *France* to *Ypres* in *Flanders*, and so to escape hither. I am ever

Your most humble, and
most faithful servant,
WINCHELSEA.

Dr. GUIDOTT *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Noble SIR, *Bath, October* 14, 1685.

HAVING under my hands, almost finished, a discourse in *Latin*, concerning the nature and virtues of the baths of *Bath*, and accidentally lighting on a small discourse of yours lately printed, concerning the way of probation of mineral waters, in order to an experimental natural history of the same, I could not but give you my hearty thanks for the good service you have done the public, as well as the assistance I have particularly received in the subject I am upon, which, as I shall gratefully acknowledge, so may have an opportunity of communicating some other discoveries, that (perhaps) may not be unacceptable to your curiosity.

HOWEVER, finding many things there, that unexpectedly did confirm what I had written before, as well as suggest some things I had not attempted, I must, in this knowing age, come no nearer that child, that makes ignorance the mother of devotion, than to pay this grateful acknowledgment; or, in terms a little higher, less than divine adoration, to an unknown God, which, if it please, will be followed with greater sacrifice.

IN the mean time, to treat so intelligent a person with his own viands, I crave leave to remind you, that you are pleased to say, you never yet met with a water predominately alcalizate. I suppose on good grounds I have asserted this to be so, though different from the sentiments of all before me; to which I have been the more encouraged, in regard, besides other arguments I have, with syrup of violets it turns very green.

I MUST likewise remind you what service you have done in dethroning that usurping opinion, that wherever a water turns with galls, there must be either iron or vitriol; in short, that it is a certain sign of acidity, when * sulphur and alcalizate salts do the same, and a composition may be made, wherein undoubtedly nothing else is, that, on a mixture with galls, will presently become of an inky complexion. To illustrate this, and confirm what you have first observed, a neighbour gentleman has now encouragement to dig for coal, a mile distant, where I waited on him, and found, among other things, that the workmen had lighted on a bed of marcasites, some of which will shortly be at your service. These very much resemble the pyrites, which I caused to be powdered and calcined with some alkalies, in which I observed so much brimstone, that the substance itself could not be more convincing. A lixivium made of the calx, the filtered water with galls gave an inky colour in a minute, and the lee

* If that be acid, as the sp. p. c. seems to attest.

of

of the calcined powder without the ſalts a faint purple. The ſalts I put to the fire-ſtones were petre, common ſalt, and an alkali, called ſcendover. How near this comes to the aqua ſulphurata you may pleaſe to conſider, as well as how much that aſſertion is confirmed, that an acid is not abſolutely requiſite in water to a purple colour with galls, which hereafter may, by my means, receive further illuſtration, who, with the tender of my hearty thanks, and humble ſervice, remain,

Honoured Sir,

a great admirer of your piety, learning, and virtue,

P. GUIDOTT.

I SHALL ſhortly be in town, and then ſhall wait on you.

Mr. THOMAS BRATTLE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 18, 1685.

THE underwritten is the copy of what I yeſterday read you out of Dr. *Avery*'s letter to me, dated in *Boſton, New England, December* 5, 1684.

" THERE was a boy, called *John Symonds*, ſervant to captain *Jacobs*, of *Hingham*, " who, when he was about ten or twelve years old, was with a man at plough, and, " as the man was diſcourſing with ſome other perſons, ſat down upon the ground be- " fore the oxen, which, being affrighted, leaped over the boy, and with the plough- " ſhare took hold of the boy's ribs, and rent a hole in his breaſt, at leaſt four fingers " broad, on the left ſide, ſo that Mr. *Joſiah Winſlow* and *Martha Beedle*, a diſcreet " woman, ſaid that they could ſee his heart, and the left lobe of his lungs would fly " out at the orifice, as he drew his breath, two or three inches, when the orifice was " open, and did ſo work againſt the pledget it was dreſſed with, that it fretted off the " ſkin, and made the lungs very ſore. They were forced to turn him to his left ſide, " when they opened the ſore to dreſs it, to pour out the watery and bloody matter " that was gathered in his breaſt; but his maſter told me, that they could not ſee his " heart after the firſt time of dreſſing, and in ſeven or eight weeks he became whole; " and though that part of the lungs, which uſed to ſlip or fly out, did at laſt grow " to the fleſh, and cloſe up the oriſice together, yet he felt no inconvenience, but " was well and ſound the laſt year, at leaſt twelve years ſince the hurt happened.

" THERE was alſo a child of one *Robert Parkers*, of *Barnſtable*, that had a ſwelling " riſe upon the ſhin, a little below the knee; the ſore broke, and continued about " three quarters of a year; then was the child about one year and half old. Then " they brought it to *Hingham*, and in time they felt the bone looſe at the upper end, " and thought to make inciſion, but found a hard callous: then they took hold of " the bone at the orifice, and the whole ſhin bone came out as far as the inſtep. " There was a callous-covered the bone, like a caſe, or ſocket, which now ſerves in- " ſtead of a ſhin-bone, only is ſomething bigger, as if the calf were upon the ſhin, " but is no impediment to the child, who is nimble and ſtrong, and now about ten " years old." Thus far the letter.

SIR, enquiring of a maſter, that had been ſeveral times at *New England*, he told me, the variation of the compaſs on St. *George*'s banks, on the coaſt of *New England*, is between ſeven and eight degrees eaſterly; and that at ſpring-tides the ſea in *Boſton* harbour riſes to about twelve feet; but hereof ſhall endeavour in time to give a more certain and exact account, who am,

SIR, your humble ſervant,

THOMAS BRATTLE.

Mr. THOMAS MACKRITH *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Honourable SIR, *Hugly, February* 5, 1685-6.

WITHOUT being ungrateful, I cannot but acknowledge the honour I had of your acquaintance by Mr. *Glover*, immediately upon my departure, and the favours received from thence, in your inſtructions and directions to me in ſeverals relating to my voyage to and at *India*, which proved very uſeful and pleaſant to me in the ſaid paſſage, though my ſhort abode here has not as yet given me occaſion to improve the reſt to any advantage; but what occurred in my voyage (of which I kept a journal) I ſhall give your honour as particular an account, as my mean capacity will afford; and that,

FIRST, in relation to the ſaltneſs of waters, and the differences in ſeveral latitudes and places. The reaſons of the great quantity of ſalt in the ſame, and how it becomes ſo, I leave to the learned to explore; only ſhall give you what account I have had of it by relation, and my own experiments on the ſame. If I am not miſtaken, you told me that ſalt was generally $\frac{1}{46}$ part heavier than freſh; but I found it in all my experiments, that the ſalt water in ſeveral places was about $\frac{1}{32}$ or $\frac{1}{33}$ part heavier than *Thames* water, which probably may agree with what you told me, conſidering there may be that difference of ſaltneſs betwixt latitude 51 deg. in the *Downs*, which is much mingled with freſh rivers, and the places where I took the other water up; which gives me much reaſon to be of a contrary opinion with captain *Wood*, who affirmed, that the nearer the pole the ſalter the water; which I had occaſion to confute by experiments this voyage, as alſo by the credible relation of our third mate, who had uſed the *Newfoundland* trade all his days till now, and did aver, that the ſeas in thoſe parts, cloſe on board the ſhore, where they could find no ground, the water was only brackiſh, and not by many degrees ſo ſalt as that near *England*, though he never was ſo curious to compare one with the other, by weight, or otherwiſe. The truth of this did ſeveral others on board affirm, whom I particularly enquired of.

BUT to the experiments that I made in ſeveral latitudes, I give this account:

	grains
That having a vial of about half a pint, which I could fill exactly almoſt to a drop, in the ſame I weighed *Thames* water at St. *Jago*, 14 deg. N. lat. ☉ in ♈, and it weighed	3111
The ſame quantity of freſh water taken in at St. *Jago* weighed	3133
And the like quantity of ſalt water taken up there weighed	3204
Under the equinox, on *Jan.* 5, ☉ in ♒, the ſaid quantity of ſalt water weighed	3226
Under the tropic ♑, on *Jan.* 21, ☉ in ♒, the aforeſaid quantity weighed	3200
On *March* 10, ☉ entering ♈, in lat. 36 deg. S. a-breaſt of Cape *Bon. Sperance*, I weighed the aforeſaid quantity of ſalt water, and it was	3186
Returning again to the equinox, on *April*, ☉ in ♉, the ſame quantity weighed	3210
On *April* 24, ☉ in ♉, in lat. 10 deg. S. entering into the Bay of *Bengal*, I weighed the aforeſaid quantity of ſalt water, and it was	3206

Here I went down into the hole of the hold of the ſhip, and cauſed one of the bungs of the freſh water caſk to be opened, to which we no ſooner held a candle but it took fire, and being deſirous to ſee if it would burn, it ſinged ſome of our fingers, and gave fire to chips. I weighed this water in my uſual glaſs, and found it to weigh thirty-five grains heavier than the ſame ſort of *Thames* water did at St. *Jago*, upon firſt coming out; the reaſon of which I am altogether ignorant of, only when we firſt opened the bung, there came out a ſteam, like a thick ſmoak, and it ſtunk.

For

FOR the more exactneſs in my weighing of all the aforeſaid waters, I brought a bottle of each out of every latitude aſhore, and weighed them over again (leſt the motion of the ſhip might have made ſome difference) and I did not find them to differ above two or three grains one with another; by all which I am convinced, that the chief cauſe of the ſaltneſs of the ſeas is from the ſun, and the nearer it, or the equinox, ſo much the ſalter, that is (excepting accidents of lands, &c.)

I HAVE preſumed to recommend to your acquaintance Mr. *Gualter Goddard*, now chief mate of our ſhip; next voyage, I ſuppoſe, commander: he is a very ingenious gentleman, and curious in ſuch experiments, and has promiſed me to carry home for you a bottle of ſalt water, out of ſeveral latitudes, for your further ſatisfaction.

I HAVE ſaid nothing as yet of the difference of ſaltneſs of water on the ſurface and that at the bottom, which will be very hard ever to explode, though you have directed me the making of a very ingenious engine, for the bringing up of water out of any depth, which I exactly made, and found it would have done ſomething that would have been curious, but that the happineſs of our voyage was ſuch, in a quick paſſage, that I could have no opportunity of a calm to try it in; which was the ſame reaſon alſo that I loſt ſeveral good experiments I intended to have made, by trying the power and preſſure of the water in ſeveral depths. But I have returned the engine with the ſaid Mr. *Goddard*, homeward bound, to ſee what may be done: but that engine wants not it own difficulties; for ſuppoſing it to be full of water, two hundred fathom down, and brought up within fifty fathom of the ſurface, ſhould then the ſaid box ſink again one foot or leſs, it would evacuate all the water of two hundred fathom deep, and take in that of fifty; which will be a very hard matter to prevent, conſidering that the ſea at the calmeſt has always ſome motion or other on the ſhip or boat you are in.

As to the ſhining of the ſea, before or after ſtorms, and upon particular winds, I did narrowly obſerve the ſame throughout the voyage, but never could find any influence that one wind had over the ſame more than another, either before or after ſtorms; for the ſea ſhineth at all times in the dark, when moved; though, I muſt confeſs, at ſome times more than at another, in which I could find no certainty; for having ſome ſalt water in a calm brought me into the dark, I moving the ſame with my hand it ſhined extremely.

As for the magnetic virtue of the loadſtone, and the variation of the compaſs ſometimes from that, I could make but little improvemement in the knowledge of the reaſon thereof, though in my journal I kept an exact account of our daily variation, taken by the azimuth compaſs, to give us ſome inſight into our longitude; but take theſe following obſervations: About lat. 10. deg. S. and 7 deg. merid. diſtance from St. *Jago*, we began to make a variation eaſterly, and run it up to 9 deg. 30 m. in lat. 28 deg. S. 10 deg. merid. diſtance from St. *Jago*; after which it falls away again to nothing in lat. 35 deg. S. and 31 merid. diſtance from St. *Jago*; where begins a weſterly variation, which runs up to 9 deg. on breaſt of *Cape Bon. Sperance*, and ſo on to 26 deg. variation in lat. 34 deg. S. and 32 deg. merid. diſtance E. from *Cape B. Sper.* and ſo it falls away again to 7 deg. and 6 deg. in the Bay of *Bengal*. The aforementioned Mr. *Goddard* told me, that being near the Iſle of St. *Laurence*, their needle went round all the points of the compaſs, and would ſtand no where; this not only in one, but in ſeveral compaſſes, which continued near the ſpace of a day; after which they traverſed again, as formerly. When we came into *Ballaſore* road, in the cod of the Bay of *Bengal*, I was an eye-witneſs to a ſhip that came to anchor in a diſtreſſed condition, having met with a ſtorm at ſea, in which a clap of thunder broke upon her, and brought down her main and mizen topmaſts, and ſhivered her main maſt and one

of her pumps, but no damage done to the hulk of the ſhip in the hold; but what was remarkable, at the ſame inſtant of the clap, the virtue of the needle of the compaſs in the binnacle (by which they had ſteered that voyage) was altered, and it traverſed directly to the oppoſite points, and ſo continued till that day that I ſaw it, and could not be put from it, but traverſed as true in oppoſite points, as any of the reſt that were not thunderſtruck. It is ſtrange, and I thought worth your noticing.

NEXT followeth ſome particular paſſages, and obſervations taken out of my journal of the ſaid voyage; and firſt, concerning the weather, which proved very variable all the way till we came within 3 deg. N. of the equinoctial, about 6 deg. merid. diſtance from St. *Jago*, at which time and place (as we expected) there fell great rains and conſtant, accompanied with dreadful lightening generally all night, and continued ſo till we were got 2 deg. S. of the line, which was a great while firſt, conſidering that we had little or no winds all the while, and ſultry hot weather, which is the occaſion ſometimes of great ſickneſs here. It is ſuppoſed, that about this place of the world it rains always, for I never heard of any that did not meet with thoſe rains, let the ☉ be where it will; at this time ☉ was within a degree of ♈; and it is a common proverb amongſt ſeamen, "When we come at the rains." If any clothes be wet with the ſaid rains, and lie ſo thirty-ſix hours, there grows great numbers of large maggots immediately. This I have ſeen amongſt the poor ſeamen. And when we come on breaſt of the *Cape B. Sper.* eſpecially if we run up into 38 deg. or 39 deg. S. which oft-times ſhips are forced to do to weather the cape, they are certain of very ſtormy weather: this is as conſtant as the other, and as much to be expected.

IN lat. 2 deg. N. I ſaw a ſpout, which being at ſome diſtance I was not capable to make any obſervation on the ſame, but it appeared to be a ſucking ſpout.

IN lat. 31 deg. S. on *Feb.* 4, about ten o'clock at night, appeared a rainbow in the N. E. directly oppoſite to the monſoon. I have ſeveral times ſeen two rainbows at once of this form ⌒ ⌒; ſome affirm that they have ſeen them thus)(; which I much doubt.

IN lat. 35 deg. S. on *February* 16, at two o'clock in the morning, the wind at S. I perceived a ſtar in the N. to ſhoot the length of three imaginary yards in the heavens, and left a large train behind it all that length, which continued viſible above a full minute by the glaſs, to the admiration of all that ſaw it.

I LIKEWISE did particularly obſerve thoſe commonly called the Magellanic clouds, which conſiſt of a greater and a leſſer; and are to my judgment compounded of a great number of ſmall inviſible ſtars, much of the nature of via lactea; they ſeem to be diſtance ten imaginary yards in the heavens, and have a due courſe, as other conſtellations; they both make one conſtellation (as I ſuppoſe) ſeeing they always appeared to me to be of one and the ſame diſtance; and conſtantly the leſſer followed the greater in riſing and ſetting. It was impoſſible to make any obſervation of them, for their right aſcenſion or declination, conſidering we were running through ſo many latitudes, and were not on terra firma.

ANOTHER thing I obſerved very ſtrange in the middle of the croſſiers, and now ſoutherly conſtellation: there, at ſundry times, as oft as the heavens were clear, appeared to me a very little but extremely dark cloud, darker than any thing I have ſeen in the heavens; this I did ſuppoſe only to be a vacancy of ſmall ſtars, that were through all the reſt of the conſtellation.

THIS is all what offered worth the noticing in our paſſage to *India*, which we performed in 5½ months: for fiſhes and fowls, we ſaw none, but ſuch as are common to all who travel that way. As for the reſt of your articles of enquiry, I ſhall anſwer as occaſion offers; and concerning a natural hiſtory of theſe parts, it will take up

ſome

ſome time to be thoroughly informed of all the circumſtances of the ſame. But it is poſſible, that next year (if it pleaſe God) I may give you ſome general account of the ſame, ſeeing I already perceive it will admit of great variety. Nought elſe, but that you would be pleaſed to command him, who is ambitious of ſerving you in any thing here, or elſewhere, and does unfeignedly reſt,

Honoured Sir,

Your honour's moſt humble ſervant,

THOMAS MACKRITH.

SIR, a medicine for the gravel in the kidneys would be very acceptable, I being oft troubled it with ſtill.

IN a calm the ſea ſtinks extremely; and if it had not pleaſed God to ſend a breeze, it had been very hurtful.

SIR, *Newton, April* 8, 1686.

FIRST then I muſt tell you, I made my obſervation in my father's grounds, within two miles of *Newcaſtle* (though the like may be ſeen in many other places) in a pit near threeſcore yards deep, and the coal about five quarters high; the bottom, or hill (as we call it) of thoſe pits (as of moſt others) is a black ſlate ſtone, not unlike ſome pieces of ſlate you may frequently meet with in ſome ſort of your common burning coal. As to the time when the figures (I told you of) were firſt obſerved, I cannot reſolve you; for the eldeſt workmen I can meet with cannot give any account, when nature firſt began to paint after that manner. Neither will it be much more eaſy to tell you, in what time theſe figures come to their full perfection, our workmen not having been critical in the obſervance of it; but ſome ſay in a few months in the ſpring ſeaſon, others allot a longer time; ſo that in this particular I can give you no certainty. But I am informed the puncheons or prop-wood (as we term it) muſt be freſh, green cut, and placed in moiſture, and the bark on, if it ſend forth the figure of its own ſpecies upon the roof, which is ſo exact when it doth, that no pencil guided by the ſkilfulleſt artiſt can draw nature more to the life, colour only excepted: for that is whitiſh, inclinable to yellow or cream colour, not very unlike ſome ſort of painting which I have ſeen in freſco, with dead colours. The branch, leaves, and every particular fibre are of the ſame, only diſtinguiſhed by ſhape, and the ſhades, which make the reſemblance of each part to nature itſelf, in that exact proportion I have before deſcribed. This I am told may be ſeen in holly or birch, the only wood we uſe for props or puncheons in theſe parts; but from the latter only I ſaw this effect produced. The moiſture which thus works out of the trunk, puncheon, or prop-wood, does not make any other impreſſion upon the ſtone, or ſlate, that is the roof of the coal (where it fixes itſelf in the form aboveſaid) than paint upon ſome hard wood or metal before it be dry, and into which it cannot ſink, and may as eaſily be wiped off and defaced, as that I never heard of any part of the ſlate thus painted brought above ground: the reaſon ſeems to be, becauſe ſuch prop-wood as produces this effect, being ſet for a ſtay or ſupport to ſome faulty or cracked part of the roof, or ſlate-ſtone, it might endanger any workman that ſhould attempt to take any part of it away.

THUS, Sir, I think I have made ſome return to every one of the queries, though not ſo diſtinctly and orderly as you propoſed them; I am ſure not ſo fully and particularly as I could have wiſhed for your ſatisfaction. But that has not been altogether my fault, but the little exactneſs with which thoſe (that converſe frequently under ground, and daily behold the wonders of that deep) obſerve them.

Mr. LEUWENHOEK *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

Moſt noble SIR, *Auguſt* 6, 1687.

I MAKE bold to ſend you under cover theſe my ſmall obſervations, about which I alſo did write to the Royal Society. Firſt, becauſe I fancy they will be not unacceptable to your honour. Secondly, becauſe I know that the Royal Society do not meet at this time.

I HAVE written four diſtinct letters to the Royal Society; and although I have not received any anſwer hitherto, yet I do not doubt but the ſame have been duly delivered.

To wit, one I did write on the fourth of *April*, 1687, in which I treat about the ſtructure of the teeth.

ANOTHER on the ninth of *May*, in which I write about coffee: the third is of the thirteenth of *June*, in which I ſpeak of plants: a fourth is of the ſecond of *July*, in which I treat of procreation of ſilk worms.

I DO hope that in theſe foregoing, as alſo in this preſent, ſomething may be found which may pleaſe your honour, remaining in the mean while,

Moſt noble Sir,

your moſt humble ſervant, *&c.*

Delft in *Holland*, *Aug.* 6, 1687.

To the noble lords, gentlemen, and members of the Royal Society.

MY laſt was of the ſecond of *July*, which do not doubt but was duly delivered; at preſent I ſend further ſome of my ſmall obſervations.

SOME have endeavoured over and above to perſuade me, that the klander and wolf do not procreate (the klander is a running vermin ſomething bigger than a full grown louſe) being two ſorts of vermin that are often found in wheat and corn, and prove very prejudicial to the ſame, too well known by the corn merchants and bakers in theſe parts.

The chiefeſt reaſons they did produce were theſe, that the wheat being lodged in a new granary, where never before any wheat had lain, the klander, notwithſtanding, in time would grow in it, which therefore happened without procreation.

SECONDLY, They alledge, that much wheat is found, which as to the outſide is ſo entire, that not the leaſt hole or opening can be perceived; yet when you come to open it, you ſhall meet with a full grown and living klander. I did endeavour to convince them to the contrary, by alledging that the workmen may probably, and without their knowledge, carry along with them from an infected granary, either the grains infected, or the vermin itſelf, ſticking to their clothes, ſtockings, or ſhoes, and ſo infect a granary, where before none of this vermin was found.

THE ſame may be alledged of any ſhip, waggon, or cart, which formerly has been made uſe of for the tranſportation of grains. I further deſired, that the firſt klanders that could be procured (it being in the midſt of winter) might be ſent to me. On the 13th of *March*, 1687, I obtained ſome wheat, of which ſome grains were made hollow, and others filled and intermixed with this klander.

I TOOK three divers glaſſes, and in them I put ſix, eight, and nine klanders, and eight, ten, and twelve grains of ſound wheat as near as I could judge, having purpoſely kept the ſame in a box.

In

IN a fourth glaſs I put ſome klanders without any wheat, but this I found would not do, the klanders dying after the twelfth day. Now by reaſon of the cold finding theſe animals moſt part of the time without motion, I did carry the glaſſes about me in my pocket; I had no other thoughts, but clearly to convince that the klander was produced from a worm, and for that purpoſe I often viewed the klander through the microſcope, but the excrements of the klander, which copiouſly did ſtick to the glaſs very much, prejudiced my obſervation. The figure of theſe excrements was long and taper; thoſe as were ſhorter had the figure of an egg, and were alſo tranſparent. I had ſome thoughts, that the klanders did not eat like unto thoſe flying creatures of the ſilk worm, and ſome of the caterpillars; but I found to the contrary, to wit, that the klander devours corn, and makes a ſound grain of wheat entirely hollow, and lodges himſelf within it; and that with their ſnout (which is lodged at the fore part of their heads) and which is very long in proportion of their body, they do bore through the hulls of the wheat, and that by the help of little tools in the form of teeth, with which the ſnout is provided at its end.

FOURTEEN days after, being the 27th of *March*, I ſaw that ſome of the klanders were cloſed by copulation one with another; and that they did ſtick cloſe together a great while, the female carrying the male, running thus along with him; and alſo I did often toſs and tumble them, yet they remained cloſely united. After this I opened ſome of the klanders to take out their eggs, but I could not fully ſatisfy myſelf with any certainty. After this I went to ſearch the maſculine ſeed of the klander, and I collected of it about the bigneſs of a big grain of ſand together, and I placed it to the eye through a very good and much magnifying microſcope, and diſcovered a prodigious great number of living animals in this ſmall parcel of matter, inſomuch that it would ſeem incredible to thoſe who have not ſeen it themſelves. I am perſuaded no general ſurveying two armies, conſiſting of 50,000 men, and fully engaged, could obſerve ſuch manifold motions in them, as I did ſee in this ſmall parcel of the maſculine ſeed, and that ſo long until my eyes were tired. I laſtly did kill theſe little animals, becauſe among theſe great and various motions I could diſcern nothing but their heads, or upper part of their bodies. Theſe little animals being dead, and thus lying aſunder, I ſaw with admiration their long and ſlender bodies, being ſome of them ſomewhat more bulky towards the upper part of their bodies further, as often as I had occaſion. I viewed theſe klanders that were ſhut up in the glaſs, and obſerved them all couple, but no life in them till the 10th of *June*, as when I ſpied among the klander and wheat two ſhort, thick, and ſmall worms, one about the bigneſs of a big grain of ſand, the other four times as big. Whereupon I opened the glaſs in which ſix klanders had been ſhut up, and alſo did examine the grains of wheat that had lain all the while amongſt them, of which two I found that were empty. Out of another grain, which as to the outſide appeared leaſt of all waſted, but notwithſtanding had many little holes, which with the bare eye could not be diſcerned, I took out a full grown klander, which had a fair red colour; but thoſe as were old, and had been ſhut up for about three months together, were of a dark brown red, and to the eye blackiſh. In another grain of wheat I ſaw a klander which was very white, lying with his legs, horns, and ſnout in ſo proper an order, that I fancied to behold a ſilk-worm ſo far changed, as to be ſpeedily turned into a flying animal, only with this difference, that this white and imperfect klander was not wrapped about with a ſkin or huſk, as the ſilk-worm. Out of another grain of wheat I took a ſhort thick worm about the length of a klander, ſo that I judge that theſe worms in few days would aſſume the form of klanders. I went further to open other glaſſes, and took out of a grain of wheat a klander, which did begin to change his white into a red colour: this was

conſtantly

constantly moving his posteriors. I took also out of other grains worms of different bigness: my design was to cut open the klander, which thus long had been shut up; but whereas at that time some gentleman came to see me, it happened that at the interim these klanders made their escape. I also observed, that klanders do lay so still in a cold season, that one cannot perceive the least motion in them. But to find out the living among the dead I breathed upon them, and so the living began to move. Now I had still a fourth glass, in which I had shut up eight klanders, and fourteen grains of wheat, which I also had carried about me in my pocket; some of these grains had little holes, and three others half spent. I did open all these grains, but could not discern any living creature or any eggs in them. I did open three or four of these klanders, and took out their bowels, and found that two were females, for out of one of them I took out five perfect white eggs, which I fancied to have their full growth; out of the rest I took more: after that I opened several other klanders, and discovered in them a complete ovarium, some eggs having their full bigness, others gradually were lesser: by this I concluded, that as the flying moth of the silk-worm, within the space of two or three days, lays many eggs, and after that suddenly dies, that to the contrary the klanders lay but few or one egg a day, and that, for that reason, the klander remains a life so long, that they might multiply proportionally to the silk-worm and other creatures; for the klanders, of which I speak, have been alive ever since last summer.

Mr. JOHN LOVE *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Torbehy*, near *Michaelstown* in *Ireland*, *Feb.* 21, 1687.

MY lord of *Orrery*, your brother, for the last seven years of his life gave me bread, together with the benefit of hearing his real wisdom, which consisted only in the consequence of his lordship's having employed that number of years in the duties of religion. His lordship did often in that time express a concern for a body of reformed Christians in *Piedmont*, whose piety he much admired. A little before his death he spoke much of them, quoting Monsieur *Aubigné*, whom he commanded me to endeavour to translate, at least that part that related to those Christians; but before I did any thing in it, God was pleased to take my lord to his eternal mercy.

THE impression his lordship's commands left on me, has ever since forced my enquiring into their circumstances; of which, by the means of one Mr. *Francis Quaile*, a worthy clergyman (who going with my lord *Kingston* into *France*, met with a complete history of them) I have fully informed myself.

I HAVE for five or six years past expected its publication in *English*, Mr. *Quaile* and I both in all that time concluding a thing so necessary in the church could not be untranslated; but finding, by my frequent converse with clergymen (who, through God's mercy, are in this kingdom both very good and very numerous; a blessing our predecessors here could not boast of) that none had yet discovered his undertaking to inform our countrymen, I did employ those hours of the last winter, my country labours would allow, in epitomizing and translating that history into *English*.

I HAVE, for several months past, exposed it to the censures of such prelates, and other clergymen, as well of the church of *England* as nonconformists, as I could come near, whose general objection is, that the epitome is not satisfactory to learned men, though it may be of great use to others. I do now, therefore, by the blessing of God, resolve upon translating the whole, for the satisfaction of some, and edification of others.

BUT

BUT here I ſeem to queſtion, wherefore I, who never had the honour of being known to you, ſhould in this caſe preſume to addreſs. I confeſs I do but ſeem, for in reality I cannot doubt your forwarding any work, that tends to the glory of God, and the good of thoſe creatures he has bleſſed with rational and immortal ſouls. Your late care of the ſouls of the ungrateful natives of this iſland (had there been no other evidences) is ſufficient to encourage this preſumption.

I AM ſenſible it were impertinence to trouble you (who cannot be a ſtranger to the original) with an *Engliſh* compendium of the book, or to ſay more on that point, than that it is Monſieur *Jean Leger*'s general hiſtory of the (*Vaudois* or) *Waldenſes*, printed at *Leyden, anno Domini* 1669, which I have endeavoured to tranſlate out of *French* into *Engliſh*. I do not hear of more than three of the books in this kingdom, but am well aſſured, were there but one of them in *England*, it could not be unſeen by you.

THE ſubſtance of my moſt humble requeſt to you is, that you will command your ſervant to put your ſtationer upon enquiry, whether any ſuch tranſlation is either licenſed, or propoſed to be printed in *London*. But the chief and only end of this my preſumption is, that I may have the honour of your opinion, whether or no Monſieur *Leger* in *Engliſh* may be of uſe in the reformed church of Chriſt in theſe kingdoms; which if you pleaſe to vouchſafe, my ſiſter will take care to ſend it to

Your honour's moſt humble, and
moſt obedient ſervant,

JOHN LOVE.

Mr. ELLYS *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Caius College*, in *Cambridge*, *Oct.* 26, 1688.

ACCORDING to Mr. *Henry Wharton*'s direction, *Maimonides*'s *More Nevochim* waits upon you with this. I am ſorry I could procure for you no other edition. Of the *Arabic* original I cannot hear at all. The *Hebrew* tranſlation, with a comment, all in that tongue, in folio, belongs to *Emanuel* College library; and of that perhaps I might obtain the uſe for you, if you pleaſe to deſire it, on my giving ſecurity for its reſtitution ſafe and entire. My beſt ſervices, Sir, are moſt freely at your command; for however unknown I have hitherto been to you, the moſt hearty veneration which I have for ſuch a benefactor to all men, but to the ſtudious more eſpecially, will always inſpire me with deſires, as far as poſſible, to approve myſelf,

SIR,

Your moſt faithful ſervant,
and true honourer,

JO. ELLYS.

I MUST add, by Mr. *Wharton*'s order, that this book coſt me ſix ſhillings.

Mr. JOSIAH WOODWARD *to Mr.* ROBERT BOYLE.

SIR, *Cooperſale*, *May* 16.

IN obedience to your pleaſure, of having a full account of the maid's caſe, who vomited the ſtone, which I lately left in your hands, I here humbly preſent you with a brief relation of it, which I take from her own mouth.

SHE

SHE is now about forty-five years of age, very crooked, and ſhort; and being unable to get a livelihood by labour, was taken in charity by the lady *Archer*, about eleven years ſince, to weed the gardens. About nine years before ſhe vomited the ſtone ſhe was knocked by a blow on her head, given her by her paſſionate brother with his fiſt, which occaſioned the firſt fit that ſhe was obſerved to have; after which, every ſudden fright caſt her into the like; into which ſhe uſually ſunk ſilently, and lay on her back or ſide, without ſtruggling or foaming. She could perceive ſomething riſe up in her throat, which ſtopped her breath, and ſo ſhe fell. The malady increaſed by duration. Her fits came more and more frequently, and continued longer, without any fright or apparent occaſion. Sometimes the fit continued an hour, and after a little raiſing herſelf on her knees, ſhe fell into another. About two years before ſhe vomited the ſtone, ſhe perceived ſomething like a little bean (as ſhe often told me) riſe up into her throat. About this time ſhe had ſometimes ſix or ſeven fits in a day, ſometimes falling into them in her bed, and being very ſick after them was inclined to vomit, till at laſt ſhe vomited blood ſeveral times, yet the ſtone remained: at length vomiting blood, ſhe brought the ſtone into her mouth, and made ſhift to ſpeak to a ſervant near her to take it, who inſtantly brought it to me; which is now about ſix years ago, after which ſhe was exempted from her fits, but now of late ſhe ſays a ſudden fright makes her ſwoon away, but nothing ſo bad as her former fits. She tells me, that about a year before ſhe vomited this ſtone, ſhe vomited ſomething of the ſame ſize and figure of the ſtone now in your hands, but of a bloody colour, and not ſo perfect a ſtone, yet very hard, which ſhe threw into a baſket of weeds, and ſo loſt it: but ſhe had but little (though ſome) eaſe by the diſgorging of it.

THIS, Sir, is the moſt perfect ſtate of her caſe that I can give; which, though a wonder to my ſhallow capacity, may probably be eaſily ſolvable to your great judgment, which has made ſo many ſecrets of nature loſe their name.

MAY it pleaſe Almighty God to preſerve your life and health, as a common bleſſing to the world, to which his infinite goodneſs has made you a general benefactor, and at laſt crown all your virtuous and elaborate ſtudies in the bleſſed ſtate of perfect piety and knowledge. In which wiſh I am ſure the learned and ſenſible part of the world will concur with,

SIR,

your moſt humble ſervant,

JOSIAH WOODWARD.

AN

AN

APPENDIX

To the FIRST PART of the

CHRISTIAN VIRTUOSO.

* * * * A FOURTH advantage the virtuoso has above other persons is, that when he is once convinced of the truth of the Christian religion, he is better qualified than other men to adhere strictly to it, in spite of the sophistry and other oppositions of its adversaries, whose grand objections are these four.

I. THAT the historical part of the scripture contains the relation of some things incredible; I mean the miracles, and some promises of things impossible to be accomplished.

II. THAT the doctrinal part delivers pretended mysteries, that are not to be comprehended.

III. THAT the proofs alledged in behalf of the Christian religion are not demonstrative, but on the contrary.

IV. THAT divers things, whose belief is enjoined by the Christian religion, are repugnant to the principles, or the dictates of philosophy.

AN answer to which objections is contained in the following dialogues, or conferences.

CONFERENCE I.

Justinus. TIME is a thing so precious and so useful, that it were pity we should mispend much of the little that is allotted for this day's meeting, upon the needless ceremonies, that too ordinarily do more than begin the conferences of gentlemen. And therefore, with your leave, I shall take the freedom to decline preambles, and hasten to put you in mind, that, according to the method of our debates, the things that we are this evening to consider, are some of the chief objections, urged by *Authades*, against the Christian religion.

Eusebius. I so well like your design of husbanding time, that, in compliance with it, I shall rather follow your example than the dictates of customary civility: and presuming that these gentlemen, who have too well improved time not to have a great

value for it, will not disavow me, I shall desire you to name, without delay, the first objection that is couched in the list, of those I presume you have set down in the paper I see in your hand.

Justin. IN obedience to your order, I shall acquaint you that it is this: "That "there are in the New Testament divers strange things, there called miracles, re- "corded, that are impossible to be done: and divers promises, menaces, and other "things, delivered, as from God, of which it may justly be said, that it is incredible "they can ever be made good."

Eleutherius. I DO not wonder that *Authades* should lay much stress upon the objection; since one can scarcely have a stronger motive to deny his assent to a history, than that the thing related is impossible; or to refuse his reliance on a promise, than that it is not possible to be made good.

Argument I. *Justin.* I SHALL not now examine, whether these allegations be absolutely and unreservedly true. But that they are not rightly applied to the relations and promises of the Gospel, I shall endeavour to manifest by the ensuing reflections.

AND first, I consider that possible, credible, and their contraries, are not absolute, but relative, or respective things; and consequently, that, to determine safely of them, we must consider as well the power of the agent, as the nature of the thing recorded to have been done, or the effect promised to be produced. If it be related, that a whale, or an elephant, did fly for an hour together in the air, that action ascribed to such agents may well be judged physically impossible, and consequently incredible. But if the same action be ascribed to an eagle, or faulcon, every one will confess it may be true. So if a boy had been recorded to have wielded a spear, ‖Sam. xvii. 7. "whose staff was like a weaver's beam," and furnished with "an iron head, that "weighed six hundred shekels," (that is above sixteen or seventeen pounds) the narrative had been incredible. But when this stupendous force is attributed to a giant, as *Goliath* is said to have done, who wore a coat of mail weighing near about "an "hundred and fifty pounds of brass," so weighty a weapon will not be judged incredibly disproportionate to so great and strong a champion. Thus also, if an *American* fisherman, that is acquainted but with a canoe, should undertake that the sun should be eclipsed on such a day seven years after, and that he will steer a vessel into this or that part of *France*, or *England*, his promises would be very unfit to be relied on, as being made by an illiterate fellow, unfurnished with abilities to make them good. But if the same things should be undertaken, though in the same space of time, by an *European* pilot, skilled in astronomy, and the art of navigation, it would be no credulity to think that he may perform his promises. You will easily believe, gentlemen, that it were not difficult to add many instances, in confirmation of those that I have named.

Eusebius. I READILY grant it, *Justinus*, and therefore desire you to proceed.

Argument II. *Justinus.* I SHOULD presently do it, *Eusebius*, but that I think it requisite to premise, that I hope you forget not, that in our present conference, it is supposed, that the historical part of the Gospel is recommended to us by the authority of such witnesses, as are abundantly sufficient in the capacity of witnesses; that is, that their testimony would be without exception, if they bore witness only to things, that were (in their own nature) possible and credible.

Manlius. AUTHADES himself would not, I presume, deny your supposition, in the equitable and cautious terms wherein you have expressed it. And, indeed, divers learned men, that have written in behalf of the Christian religion, have sufficiently made out that the evangelists, and other writers of the New Testament, were sincere men, that delivered *bonâ fide* to posterity the things they believed, they saw and heard.

But

But then *Authades* will say, that the personal qualifications of the witnesses ought not to inforce an assent to narratives repugnant to the possibility of things: and that therefore, though the witnesses may deserve to believed on all other occasions, yet no human testimony can oblige us to believe things incredible; as all things must be, that are impossible.

Justinus. WHAT you propose *Manlius*, as the plea of *Authades*, is, I confess, very specious. For I readily acknowledge, that the miracles and divers promises recorded in the New Testament, might some of them be judged impossible, and others not credible, if they were related as passages of a natural or civil history; such as those of *Pliny*, *Tacitus*, *Thucydides*, or the like. But then we are here to consider, that both in the stupendous matters of fact recorded, and in the future events, predicted by way of promise, or menace, a divine agent is introduced, as interposing his uncontrolable power and unsearchable wisdom. And therefore we are not to pronounce the matters of fact impossible, or incredible, unless we can make it appear, that they surpass the power of God himself, as well as that of other agents. And as for him, not only the scripture witnesseth that Christ said, "that with God all things are pos- Matt. xix. "sible;" and an angel pronounces, "that with God nothing is impossible;" but 26. the very notion of a Being infinitely perfect, which seems to be the best idea we are Luke i. 37. able to frame of God, includes omnipotency; that is as great and unlimited a power as it is possible for any being to possess. And accordingly, divers of the Heathen philosophers and others were led, by the light of nature, to acknowledge in the Deity so immense a power, that one of them sticks not to say,

——— *Finemque potentia cæli,*
Non habet, & quicquid superi voluere, peractum est.

To which purpose another, speaking almost in a scripture phrase, thus expresses his mind:

Esse Deum si noris, & hoc tibi scire necesse est,
Nil non posse Deum.

AND *Virgil* gives God the very title the Christian creed attributes to him, where he says,

Tum pater omnipotens, &c. Virg. Georg. lib. II.

Eleuth. I THINK your distinction, *Justinus*, to be both well grounded and pertinent; and it may be authorised by a clause of that text you lately cited out of the Gospel. For when the disciples asked their divine master a question, which implied Matt. xix. an objection, he answered the ground of it by saying, that though to the mere power 26. of man the thing in question was impossible, yet it was not so to God, since to him all things are possible. And the apostle *Paul* seems to have had his eye upon this distinction, when he said to king *Agrippa*, "Why should it be thought a thing incre- Acts xxvi. 8. "dible with you, that God should raise the dead?" intimating, by naming the Almighty Agent, that it was a sufficient reason, why so difficult an article, as the resurrection of the dead, ought not to be judged incredible by those that believed its having been revealed, or by (otherwise) most credible testimony affirmed, or brought to pass by God; as he declares he knew that king *Agrippa* did. Ver. 27.

Euseb. I THINK this discourse of the apostle *Paul* to be no way repugnant to right reason. For he supposes the miracles he speaks of to be granted, as having been so recent and notorious; and that what the prophets delivered in the holy scriptures, was grounded on such arguments of the same kind, and other collateral proofs, as deservedly made their authority acknowledged by *Agrippa*. So that the veracity,

power, and wisdom of God were concerned to verify the truth of the resurrection. Which things being supposed, I shall not scruple to add, for confirming and compleating the argument proposed by *Eleutherius*, that it is extremely difficult for us dim-sighted mortals, to discern the utmost extent of the divine power and knowledge; and that it is therefore unfit and unsafe for us to determine it negatively.

Just. You are much in the right, *Eusebius*; for power, as we now consider it, is a relative thing, not only in reference to the effects to be produced by it, but in reference to the faculty, that is to take measure, or make an estimate of it. And in such cases as we are speaking of, I think we may look upon knowledge, or wisdom itself, as a kind of power; since a man is justly reputed able to do, not only what he can perform by his strength, or force, properly so called, but also what he can bring to pass by means of his knowledge, skill, or wisdom, guiding and regulating his force. Thus, as has been already noted, there are many things that surpass the power of one agent, that yet are easily performed by another; nay perhaps by the same, when its potency increases. And on the other side, we plainly see that the estimates that are made by ignorant judges, of the power of agents of higher orders, are much too scant and derogatory. A child that can build a house of cards, will not conceive how an architect can build such a structure as the capitol, or *Nebuchadnezzar*'s palace; nor can he imagine how a man can, without stirring out of his chamber, *&c.* * * * * *

BUT we need not descend so low as children for instances fit for our present purpose, since even amongst men of ripe years, though of the same species, and perhaps of natural capacities very little differing, that power, which accrues to man through knowledge, enables some *Europeans* to do such things, as the savages of the *American* islands (to say nothing of thousands of country people nearer home) looked upon as to be beyond the power of men; and therefore when they saw some, even of the least difficult sort, of those things performed by the *Spaniards*, that first came among them, they took them to be beings of an order superior to men, and worshipped them as Gods. And without travelling so far as the savage and ignorant inhabitants of *America*, how few are they (besides those few that are acquainted with the mathematics) that can conceive how an astronomer can measure the distance between the earth and the moon, or the sun; and how he can, many years before, know to an hour the time of an eclipse of the sun or moon? An inferior degree of which skill the learned and inquisitive *Greeks* themselves were strangers to, till *Thales*, the first of their seven wise men, to their general admiration, gave an instance of it.

Euseb. You may, *Justinus*, add to these queries, how one that is no gnomonist, though otherwise, perhaps, no ignorant man, but a learned one, can so skilfully place a piece of wire upon a board, as to oblige the sun, who is computed to be remote from it [21,600 *semidiameters of the earth, or* 86,051,398 *English miles, according to modern astronomers*] to give him an account, as often as he shines forth, of his motions and his gesses, his distance from the horizon, and many other things? and how, which is yet a more difficult question, a man that never was near, or perhaps within a thousand leagues of, the country he was to go to (nor, perchance, ever was at sea before) should be able to steer a ship through the vast ocean to a determinate port, possibly in the *East*, or in the *West-Indies*, that is not a quarter of a league broad.

Just. YOUR instances, *Eusebius*, are pertinent, and should be backed with many others, if I did not think that those, that have been named already, may allow me
Argument III. to make this application of them: that since one man can so little make estimates of what another, who himself is but a man, can perform; we purblind mortals, that are not of the highest order of God's creatures, may justly think ourselves but incompetent judges of the extent of the power and knowledge of God, that is, of a being that

that is essentially as perfect as it is possible that any being should be, and consequently, whose power may justly be supposed to reach farther than our limited intellects can apprehend; or for that reason, without a saucy rashness, can presume to bound.

Euseb. THAT what you come from saying, *Justinus*, is rational, may perhaps be made appear so the better to *Torquatus*, if it be represented to him, that though it be true, what some of his philosophical friends believe, that in the idea of a being infinitely perfect, all possible excellencies, and consequently an immense power and knowledge are included; yet it is also true, that as to us they are so contained there, that we men have but general and confused notions of them, and are not wont to estimate their extent, but according to the productions of them that we observe. And experience shews those that are attentive to it, that the most enlarged and affecting notions we have of the divine attributes, flow not from the simple idea we have of God, but from the consideration of those works and actings of his, wherein he has displayed those attributes, and from the greater or lesser capacity of our intellects to discover and apprehend them. And for my part, the bare knowledge of this truth, that it is essential to God to be perfectly powerful, wise, and beneficent, would never have given me such enlarged conceptions of his excellencies, as the effects of his power, in producing of his wisdom, in framing and governing the world, and of his goodness, in so richly providing for the temporal welfare and eternal happiness of men, have justly produced in me. And since, as *Justinus* has lately well observed, men, that are eminently knowing and skilful, may perform things that unskilful men would judge unfeasible. I think it may well be supposed that angels, who are of a higher order than men, may, by their intellectual advantages, have a far more reaching prospect of the extent of the divine power and knowledge, than we purblind mortals have; which, being granted, will discover more and more presumption in them, that adventure upon the authority of their narrow notices to circumscribe God's omipotence and his omniscience. * * * *

Manlius. BUT can you really think, *Justinus*, that there ought to be no limits placed to the divine power; and that there are not many things that God himself cannot do? Argument IV.

Just. THOUGH I be much of the mind of a great person, that thought it more fit and respectful to say, that such or such things cannot be done, than that God cannot do them; yet I do not deny that some things, that men may call bounds, may be assigned to the divine power. But then I allow these boundaries (if they may be properly so called) to be no others, than such as cannot but be admitted, unless we will teach what is manifestly repugnant to the nature either of things, or of God.

Man. I SHALL be glad to learn from you the explication and the grounds of your assertion.

Just. THERE are some notions and propositions, that are therefore impossible to be true, because they are repugnant, I say, not to the changes of the textures, or other modifications of things, but to their essential ideas, if I may so call them. As for instance, that a sphere of silver should be turned into a sphere of gold, is a thing, which though extremely difficult to be performed, yet doth not appear to be impossible absolutely speaking; because a merely mechanical change of the texture and other modifications of the small parts that compose the metal, may suffice for such a change. And so a sphere of ice may, by being thawed in a bullet-mold, be reduced into such a fluid body as is a sphere of water. But that there can be made a cylindrical sphere of gold is impossible, because the essential ideas of those two bodies are evidently incompatible: and to give gold the necessary properties of a cylinder, the matter to be transformed must necessarily lose those of a sphere; and to make a spherical cylinder is as impossible, as to make an odd number that may be divided into

two

two even whole numbers, or to make a square triangle, the ideas of the subject and the attribute being manifestly inconsistent.

Eleu. GIVE me leave to add, gentlemen, that besides such notions as these, wherein the incompatibility of the subject and the attribute is manifest upon the first attentive view of them; there are other repugnancies to the nature of things that are not so obvious, and therefore require, besides attention, some discourse to discover them, at least to others, if not to a man's self; the irreconcileable disagreement of their ideas needing now and then some little ratiocination to be discerned, or to be declared. * * *

Argument V.

I PROCEED now to an argument, which, though in some sense subordinate to the former, will not only strengthen it, but perhaps will by itself make a more powerful impression than it on many, if not most persons, as it is a sensible proof, and grounded on matters of fact. For there were divers wonders actually performed in favour of the Christian religion, by the first promulgers of it, and by some of the prophets, that of old made predictions, that may bear witness to the same religion, which recorded wonders already performed seem as incredible, as divers of those strange and unlikely events, some foretold, and others promising the Gospel, can justly be pretended to be, which upon that account our infidels object against as altogether unfit to be believed.

THE evangelical history records divers things relating either to God's power or his knowledge, that seem plainly supernatural, and are undoubtedly stupendous, upon the score either of the nature of the thing performed, or of the manner or circumstances of the performance. Jesus Christ is recorded to have healed the sick, cured the lame, restored sight to the blind (though born so) cleansed the lepers, and in short to have cured all manner of diseases and sicknesses among the people; and (which is much more than all that) to have raised the dead. And this he did without proper means, by his bare will, sometimes expressed by words, as when he said to the leper, "I will, be thou clean;" and when he told the centurion, "Go thy way, and as "thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee;" upon which his servant (who was then absent) was immediately made whole: and when he said to a dead man, "*Lazarus* come forth:" and sometimes by means not only insufficient, but, according to human estimate, contrary to the effect to be produced; as when he healed the blind man with clay and spittle: and to such instances of his power over men, we may add others of that he exercised, or that was exercised on his account over other beings. Thus he made the sea not to yield under his feet, when he walked on it himself, and made *Peter* for a while to do so: he blasted the fig-tree by his curse: he drew, without natural means, multitudes of fishes to a place they would not come to before: and by rebuking the tempestuous winds and swelling sea, he suddenly calmed them both: he in a trice turned common water into choice wine at a feast: and more than once so feasted some thousands of people with a very few loaves and small fishes, that the fragments amounted to much more than the victuals did before he multiplied them. On his account there was such an earthquake near *Jerusalem*, as rent the rocks in which his body was laid. In the air loud voices were heard, which in articulate words bare witness to him. And there appeared a new star, refulgent and elevated enough to draw the admiration of the eastern sages, and engage them to make a long voyage to *Jerusalem*. And in the heavens his birth was celebrated by a celestial host; and his death signalized by an eclipse of the sun when the moon was at full. Nor was it only over inanimate creatures that Christ's power was exercised, but also over beings of a higher order. For when he was tempted in the wilderness, good angels ministred to him; and as for the bad ones, he often rejected them in spite of

Mark i. 41, 42. Matt. viii. 13. John xi. 43. ix. 6, 7. Matt. xiv. 25, 29. xxi. 19. John xxi. 6. Matt. viii. 26. John ii. 8, 9, 10. Matt. xiv. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21. xv. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. xxviii. 2. iii. 17. John xii. 28. Matt. ii. 1, 2. Luke ii. 13, 14. xxiii. 44, 45. Matt. iv. 11. Luke iv. 41.

of their reluctancy: he restrained them from speaking, when he thought not fit to permit it: and even when numbers of them had possessed one unhappy person, he forcibly dislodged them; as when out of *Mary Magdalen* he cast seven devils; and out of a frantic man so many, that their crowd made them take upon them the name of Legion; which when expelled, were not able so much as to enter into a hog; though when they had his permission, they were able to hurry a herd of two thousand swine into the sea. Nor were the effects of Christ's knowledge less stupendous than those of his power. For he declared what was done in places he was not near; as when he told *Nathanael* of his being under the fig-tree. He declared things past, which he had no human means to know; as when he told the *Samaritan* woman (to omit other particulars which she owned to her neighbours he had declared to her) that she had had so many husbands, and lived now with one as her husband, that was not so. He discerned the thoughts of men's hearts; and foretold such contingencies, as that such a particular disciple of his own should betray him; and that the *Jews* and Gentiles should conspire his death, and make it such a one as was not threatned by the *Jewish* laws. He foretold the destruction of *Jerusalem*, and divers fore-runners and other circumstances of it. He foretold the particular manner of *Peter*'s death; and that when he had cast his angle into the sea, a fish should bite at it, which should have such a determinate piece of money in its mouth: which puts me in mind to add one circumstance of some of his predictions, which in my opinion doth wonderfully argue the greatness of his prescience, as well as of the divine power. For he foretold several things, that not only seemed to be very contingent, but were in themselves miraculous, and therefore could not have been produced by the course of human affairs, or by chance, as it is pretended of divers other things foretold by astrologers and Heathen oracles. For a mere, though strangely lucky, concourse of natural causes and accidents, might possibly produce the proposed effect. But such effects as were beyond the power of natural causes, could not be foreseen in them: such as were his own resurrection, the gift of tongues, and of curing diseases without medicines; and, which is more, of ejecting devils, *&c.* which being effects supernatural, could not be foreseen, but by the help of one that was also able, by a supernatural power, to produce them: and therefore the Heathen astrologers and renderers of oracles wisely forbore to venture on such predictions. * * * * *

Luke viii. 2. Mark v. 2, 3, *&c.* John i. 48. John iv. 18. John xiii. 26. Mark x. 33, 34. Luke xxiv. 7. Matt. xxiv. Mark xiii. Luke xxi. John xxi. 18, 19. Matt. xvii. 27.

Euseb. SOME of the arguments you have employed, and the very way of reasoning you have made use of, will be very acceptable to some virtuosi that you and I are acquainted with; who think, that though such as they are liable to some particular temptations to be infidels, yet that inconvenience is more than compensated, by some peculiar advantages they have, towards believing the wonders, and expecting the promises, delivered in the Gospel. Argument VI.

Eleuth. FOR my part, I do not wonder that the gentlemen you speak of should be of that mind; for in my opinion, a virtuoso, that knows how to put nature to her plunges, and can skilfully reduce her to shew her subtilty and power, must oftentimes see such things performed by her, as make him think the vulgar catalogue of impossible or incredible things to be far greater than it ought to be; he being ascertained, by trials and observations, that she is more powerful and subtil in her operations, than any thing but experience would persuade men. And yet all the admirable productions and phænomena of nature, being but the effects and results of local motion, and two or three other mechanical affections of the small parts of the universal matter, acting on one another according to settled laws; it were unreasonable to deny, that the grand Author of nature, who freely or arbitrarily established those laws, may, either by suspending, or altering them, or by a more immediate guidance of the

the motions of the minute parts, or greater portions of matter, or by ways as unknown to us, as those by which he, being an incorporeal substance, can give motion to matter: a virtuoso, I say, that knows and considers these things, will easily grant, that this divine agent may, by divers ways, some of them imaginable by us, and others inconceivable to us, bring such things to pass, as the ordinary course of nature would never produce, and surpassing those which her unassisted power could ever reach to. * * * * *

MUCH more should be said to confirm what has been said, if I were not afraid it would appear a digression; and therefore I shall now only add, that the observation of the various and oftentimes admirable contrivances, and surprising fetches, whereby some created agents, or second causes, are able to pursue their ends, and bring very unlikely things to pass, does prepare the heedful naturalist to believe, that the divine and omniscient author of nature may exercise, when he thinks fit, a far more manifold and admirable wisdom, and, if I may so speak, skill, in the compassing of whatever he designs to effect or bring about. And therefore, if our experimentarian be once satisfied, that God has declared that he will do such a thing, or that it shall come to pass, he will make no doubt, but that God will be able to make good his word.

As for the first of these objections then he will be kept from being much staggered by it, by the consideration of those supernatural experiments, commonly called miracles, that are recorded in the New Testament, and were not only attested by most faithful eye-witnesses, but were so real and conspicuous, that many of them were done before the enemies of the religion they bore witness to; and turned many of those enemies into proselytes. Now these miracles being not to be done, but by a power that was able to controul the course of nature, or surpass her power; those supernatural phænomena are not only seals to attest the doctrine to be from God, but such instances of his power, as contained sufficient grounds to believe him able to perform what that doctrine engaged its hearers to expect. And whether or no it may be absolutely affirmed, that neither the promises, nor the menaces of the Gospel, oblige us to believe more incredible things, than the miracles that confirmed it shew the author of it able to perform; yet at least it may be said, that what he has done is more strange, than divers of those things that infidels would have it impossible that he should do. * * * *

IN answer to the first objection it was considered,

1. THAT possible, credible, and their contraries, are not absolute, but relative or respective things; and consequently, that to determine safely of them, we must consider as well the power of the agent, as the nature of the thing recorded to have been done, or the effect promised to be produced.

2. THAT the historical part of the Gospel is justly supposed to have for it the authority of witnesses, abundantly sufficient in the capacity of witnesses.

3. THAT indeed the miracles, *&c.* recorded in the New Testament would not some of them be possible, nor the rest credible, unless ascribed to the power of God; but to that they are not impossible.

4. THAT it is very difficult for us dim-sighted mortals to discern the extent of the divine power and knowledge, and therefore unfit and unsafe to determine it negatively.

5. [THAT the matters of fact recorded in the New Testament do make the belief of its miracles and traditions justifiable.]

6. THAT a virtuoso has a peculiar disposition to believe, that things incredible to others may be possible, and that promises and menaces very unlikely may be made good.

To these things is added an answer to the surmise, that a virtuoso is inclined to refer all strange things to nature and art.

OCCA-

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS

Belonging to the preceding conference, intended by the noble author to have been inserted in their proper places, had he completed it.

THOUGH matter can do nothing in reference to matter, but variously move it, or stop or determine its motion, yet it will not follow, that an immaterial substance can do no more; and what it can do must not be estimated merely by the effects of one body or portion of matter upon another; as the human soul can determine the motions of the human body, and by its union with the body (which union depends on God's arbitrary constitution) it can receive impressions from the body; so that by the divine appointment a soul and a body have each of them a power transcending that which belongs to it, on the account of its own nature; and consequently, it is like that he that gave them that power, may have a far greater.

DEISTS must, to maintain their negative creed, swallow greater improbabilities than Christians, to maintain the positive creed of the apostles. And they must think it fitter to believe, that chance, or nature, or superstition, should perform wonderful and hardly credible things, than that the great author of nature, God, should be able to do so.

CONFERENCE II.

Justinus. I PRESUME, gentlemen, you have not forgot, that at our last meeting we went no farther than the examen of the first of *Authades*'s four objections: and therefore we shall now, if you think fit, proceed to the second, and without farther ceremony call upon his and our friend *Manlius* for it.

Manlius. I SHALL not make you wait for it, gentlemen, but propose it thus. That the choice of a man's religion being the most important action of his life, he ought not to make it upon a less firm ground than a manifest demonstration of the truth of that which he chuses: and yet the Christian religion does not afford, or scarce dares pretend to any clear demonstrative proof of its truth; or however cannot evidence it, as may appear by this, that it is gainsayed and disbelieved by a far greater part of mankind, than that which embraces it.

Justinus. I DO not wonder, that we find not all the prime articles of our religion as clear as common notions, nor the conclusions, by which they are proved, as cogent as mathematical demonstrations. For, in my apprehensions, God, who meant that men's faith and obedience should be, though not meritorious, yet rewardable virtues, thought fit to propose the Christian religion in such a way as may rationally satisfy honest, though prudent persons, without necessary convincing vicious and obstinate cavillers; giving light enough to those that are willing to walk by it in his paths, without taking away their misused liberty from those, that are resolved to shut their eyes against it; as the star, that appeared at the author of Christianity's birth, guided the wise men that were willing to follow its directions, but could do no service to the priests and Pharisees. In short, I think the Gospel was designed to be accompanied with an evidence that should be sufficient, without being irresistible.

To the second objection it was answered,

1. THAT since all things are not capable of being demonstrated, it is not just to require other proofs of a thing, than such as, in case it be true, the nature of it will bear.

2. THAT if this consideration be allowable in matters physical or moral, it ought to take place much more, when the things treated of are of a sublime, abstruse, and supernatural order.

3. THAT perhaps several points of the Christian religion would be found capable of higher proofs, than are usually urged for them even by divines, if the Christian cause were skilfully managed.

4. THAT besides the nature of the things themselves, it is to be considered, that the design of the Christian religion ought to keep the truths from being incontestible, because God would keep faith a rewardable virtue.

5. THAT when a thing proposed to our assent is not merely speculative, but an object of choice, about which we are obliged to determine some one way, then we are not chiefly to consider whether the proposition be convincingly proved, but whether it have great advantage of the opposite; since that, which is not sufficient to make a man sure that he chuses the truth, may yet be sufficient to satisfy him that he makes a prudent choice.

6. THAT the plain truths of the Gospel are as plainly proveable, as, the premises considered, it is necessary (or perhaps fit) that they should be.

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

THERE are some bad men, that, though very studious, may be compared to those flies that seem very fond of courting the light, that shines in the flame of a candle, but striking it with their wings, they do things that really tend to the extinguishing of it, but with such ill success, that instead of destroying the flame, themselves, or at least their wings, are destroyed by it.

MOST things are not so demonstrable to most men, but that arguments may be framed, as well to impugn or question, as to evince them: so that if a man have a strong aversion from such or such a truth, or a great proneness to embrace the contrary error, his corrupt affections may prevail to make his intellect afford so much attention to all the proofs that favour an error, and may so take him off from sufficiently attending to the arguments that shew it to be an error, or that manifest the opinion that opposeth it to be true, that his undertakings thus biassed may really for the time assent to the error, and reject the truth, though when the mind comes to be *sui juris* again, it cannot rest in an erroneous assent, but must at length close with, and submit to a light, that it cannot always resist.

SOME admirable mysteries of religion are in vain sought by those that endeavour to find them, that they may debase or pervert them to mean or vicious purposes: as the angels, notwithstanding their distinguishing loveliness, could not be discovered by all the endeavours of the *Sodomites* that sought for them to abuse them.

CONFERENCE III.

Justinus. AFTER what has been said, gentlemen, before our late recess, to *Authades*'s second objection, I presume you will allow me, without spending more time upon that, to pass on to his third; which I shall therefore in your name, and with your permission, desire *Manlius* to propose.

Manlius. I SHALL do it in a few words, *Justinus*, by telling you, that, according to him, the doctrinal part of the Christian religion delivers pretended mysteries, that are not to be comprehended: which assertion, if it be true, cannot but amount to a very strong, if not insuperable, objection. For since assent, which comprehends faith, is

an act of the human intellect, *Authades* thinks it not reasonable, that men should believe any thing, which is not intelligible to the assenting faculty, and consequently cannot be rationally believed by it.

Justinus. I SHOULD be very little acquainted with the great propension, that our self-love and imperfections give us to flatter ourselves, if I did not acknowledge the objection newly urged, very like to be thought considerable by most to whom it shall be proposed. But there are several things that keep me from thinking the argument unanswerable.

AND first it may be considered, that our understandings are but dim-sighted, and our knowledge very imperfect, even when they are conversant but about natural things. Argument I.

Eleu. I AM apt, *Justinus*, to think, that those who shall deny what you have asserted, have not made much trial of their skill upon difficult subjects. For though I dare not estimate the success of others in such attempts, by the discouraging one that I have met with in those I have ventured to make; yet by the frequent confessions and complaints even of excellent writers, when their modesty is not much inferior to their learning; I find that the best philosophers have upon full trials been made sensible, that the darkness of many things is too thick to be discussed by the dim light of their reason * * * * *

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

As much as we pride ourselves in our understanding, we may daily observe that the actions and performances of a senseless grain of corn for instance, or of a kernel of an apple, surpass our comprehension.

IT is no wonder we should be nonplussed by the creatures of God's making, or by his supernatural revelations, when we are nonplussed even by creatures of our own making, and propositions of our own devising, such as are the asymptotes of the *Hyperbola*, the *Linea Nicomedis*, *&c.*

Justinus. WHEN I shall have advanced a little further, gentlemen, it will not be difficult to perceive, that what has been discoursed in the first argument may well be judged to have made way for the second, the latter being little more than an application of the former. My next consideration therefore shall be this; that if there be scarce surmountable difficulties in the conception of things corporeal, it ought not to be denied, that there may be greater in the conception of things spiritual and supernatural. Argument II.

Eleu. THOUGH what you say, *Justinus*, appears very probable in itself, yet it contains something of that importance, that it may deserve to be established by a few arguments, and many it will not need.

Justinus. I AM much of your mind, *Eleutherius*, in both the things contained in what you come from saying: and therefore, as on the one side I shall propose a couple of arguments to confirm my lately mentioned consideration, so I shall confine myself to that small number too; whereof the first shall be drawn from the consideration of the abstruse nature of divers articles of religion; and the other from that of the depravedness of men. As for the first of these, there are certain natural imperfections, that belong to men as such, or at least to the generality of men, on whose account their faculties, especially as men usually employ them, are disproportionate to divers notions and propositions that belong to theology, either natural or revealed. In the mention I just now made of our discerning faculties, I purposely said, as men usu-

ally employ them, because I have observed, that the cause of divers of the mistakes and others, that alienate many otherwise ingenious men from assenting to some sublime theological truths, and from so much as hoping to understand them, is, that they unskilfully confound two faculties, that, as they are very different, so should be very carefully distinguished; and misemploy imagination, to conceive such things as are the proper objects of the pure intellect. But since it is like there will be occasion to say more of this hereafter, I shall now proceed in what I intended to say about the indisposition that most men have, to understand things that fall not under the senses, nor do appear explicable by mechanical principles. This those, that have exercised themselves in researches about the more sublime or abstruse kinds of subjects, cannot but be sensible of: and even abstracting from those theological notions and dogms, that the schools have borrowed from Christianity, and interwoven with their metaphysics, the merely philosophical part of that science obliges the critical studiers of it to take notice of several beings, and perhaps several orders of them, that differ from the whole variety of bodies considered as bodies. In the more accurate metaphysics, we may take notice of the great difference there is between stable and permanent beings, such as have what is essential to them all at once, and successive ones, as local motion, flames, streams, and divers other things, which being in a continual flux, enjoy their beings but as it were by parcels, being never two minutes the same. There we may also take notice of privations, negations, extrinsical denominations, *entia rationis* (if these be not, as some will have them, of a generical nature, comprising the three others) not to name any other metaphysical entities; in discoursing about which we are often obliged to make use of peculiar ratiocinations.

Eleuth. GIVE me leave, *Justinus*, to add a couple of entities, that though we do not owe to metaphysical speculations, required to be discoursed of in a peculiar way, because of their peculiar nature. Perhaps I need not tell you, that these are place and time, to which we cannot safely apply several of those ratiocinations that hold good in bodies, and some of them in some other beings too. And yet time and place, though they exceedingly differ from each other, has each of them properties so peculiar, that the famous *Gassendus*, and divers other learned men, will not only have them to differ from all the works of nature, but to be antecedent to them; and to be of so anomalous an order, and of such vast extent, that all the ten predicaments cannot comprise them; and they are properly neither substances nor accidents, having been antecedent to the first formation of the universe; so that the world itself may be said to be but accidental to time and place, which would retain their own natures, though God should think fit to annihilate all the productions of the six days creation.

Justinus. WITHOUT entering into the Examen of the learned *Gassendus*'s particular sentiments, I think one may say, that it is manifest enough to considerers, that in mentioning time and place you have supplied me with a couple of heteroclite beings, that may be pertinently alledged to my present purpose. And therefore I shall now proceed to speak of spirits, intelligences, or, as they are more usually called, good and bad angels, which are confessedly of an order widely differing from bodies, and superior to them, how curiously soever they are contrived, and how nobly soever they be qualified.

Now as to this kind of beings, one that reads the numerous questions and determinations of them, that several metaphysical writers and school-divines have delivered, even about niceties and particular circumstances relating to spirits more properly so called, would indeed think that men, who descend to such minute particularities, had clear and penetrating notions of at least the essential nature, and the principal attributes of spirits. But yet though I will not say, that these things were to the mental

eyes of theſe writers, almoſt as viſible as the ſpirits themſelves were to their bodily ones; yet I ſhall venture to own to you, gentlemen, that I think, that of theſe abſtracted objects their knowledge was, and ours is, very dim and imperfect; and that we might eaſily diſcover it to be ſo, if we would employ about theſe ſubjects ſuch an attention, as their ſublime nature, and the properties that diſtinguiſh them from bodies, require. Men are wont to think, that they have ſufficiently declared the nature of a ſpirit, by defining it an immaterial ſubſtance. But this is but a negative definition, which tells you indeed that it is not corporeal, but gives you no poſitive idea of ſo much as the principal attributes of the thing. It teaches ſomething, but nothing near enough: and a man that knows that a ſpirit is not a body, may be as little able to form to himſelf an adequate or ſatisfying idea of an intelligence, a good angel, or a demon, as he that only knows that a crooked line is not a ſtrait one, can give himſelf a rational account of the peculiar and ſtrange differences and affections of particular curves, ſuch as make the ellipſis, the hyperbola, the parabola, and others.

Euſebius. HE, that conſiders what the holy ſcriptures deliver about angels, good and bad, and their actions and performances, will find, that thoſe ſpirits are ſubjects of ſpeculation, little leſs abſtruſe than they are ſublime.

Juſtinus. You are much in the right *Euſebius*; for a man, that will give himſelf the leiſure and trouble of making an attentive inſpection into ſuch difficult ſubjects, as the nature, properties and operations of immaterial ſpirits, and will not acquieſce but in clear conceptions of them, will find the difficulties of framing ſuch conceptions ſcarce ſuperable by his intellect itſelf, and altogether inſuperable by his imagination. For ſince that faculty, which is called fantaſy or imagination, is a corporeal faculty, and exerciſed but about ſuch things as were introduced into the mind by the ſenſes, or are compounded of ſuch images, or derived from them; how can thoſe, that will employ but their imagination, frame a conception of an immaterial ſpirit, which, not being a corporeal ſubſtance, cannot be conveyed by the ſenſes to the fantaſy, nor truly repreſented by a corporeal image? But if the very nature of a ſpirit be not truly imaginable, how little will they be able to conceive divers properties that belong to it, and the manner how divers of its actions are performed, whilſt they employ but their imagination to frame their conceptions? And even when we ſpeak of men in general, without confining ourſelves to the over-valuers of imagination, it is very difficult for a man to conceive how an angel, or a demon, being an incorporeal ſubſtance, can declare his thoughts to another angel? How he can, out of the air, or ſome other as inviſible body, frame to himſelf, at pleaſure, ſomewhat, that is ſo like a human body, that it has often been not ſo much as ſuſpected to be any thing elſe? How he can make this aſſumed body appear and diſappear at pleaſure? How, whilſt he is in ſome manner ſcarce explicable by us men united to it, he can move from place to place, and ſpeak, and deſcend, like a body devoid of gravity, and put this body into a flame, without being injured by it, as happened in the caſe of the angel that appeared to *Manoah?* How he can perform things that require ſo much power, as an angel exerciſed, when in one night he deſtroyed about 180,000 ſoldiers in the *Aſſyrian* camp; and Satan, when God permitted him, diſplayed in the great fire that fell from heaven, and conſumed *Job*'s cattle, and thoſe that kept and guarded them; and the prodigious ſtorm, that overthrew the houſe where all his children were feaſting, and buried them in its ruins?

Euſebius. THOUGH theſe are unaccountable things that you have mentioned, about angels and demons, yet the ſcripture delivers many others, either by way of hiſtory, or dogmatically, that are diſproportionate to our diſcerning faculties. And if we ſhould but take notice of the many paſſages, that are to be met with in the book of *Daniel*, and in

in the *Apocalypse*, that speak wonderful things of angels, it would abundantly evince what *Justinus* has asserted.

Eleuth. You may, I think, save yourself that trouble, *Eusebius*, since those that read the scriptures with any kind of attention, and make reflections on the passages, that speak of angels and their operations, will easily find their faculties distressed by such inexplicable things. And therefore, though *Torquatus* admitting the authority of the holy scripture, it was allowable for *Justinus* and *Eusebius* to make use of the passages in it, that relate to angels good and bad; yet perhaps it will be more proper to consider a little that order of beings we call spirits, as it has been acknowledged by Heathen philophers, instructed only by the light of natural reason. And because *Aristotle* may be justly looked upon as a philosopher, that whatever he do in his exoteric, or more popular writings, does, at least in his acroamatic or accurate ones, ascribe almost all to nature, and very little to God, as an agent distinct from her; I wave the mention of the opinions of the *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, who were much more inquisitive than he into the nature and kinds of spirits, and have treated more distinctly of them: I shall only take notice of some things, that *Aristotle* himself teaches about them. For you know he admits invisible beings, that he calls intelligences, which he makes to be separated from matter, and to be the movers of the celestial orbs. And if he did indeed acknowledge one supreme God, as most of his interpreters, and some other learned men, maintain he did, I shall take the liberty to add, to the intelligences that moved the planets, a sort of rational beings, that he seems to place above them, and indeed beyond the utmost limits of the world. *Demonstratum est*, says he, referring to the precedent discourse, *extra cœlum nec esse corpus, nec etiam esse posse. Patet ergo* (he continues) *neque locum extra cœlum esse, neque vacuum, neque tempus*

Arist. de Cœlo, L. 1. c. 10.

To which perplexing passage he subjoins an inference, which he seems to me to apply plainly enough to a kind of beings, differing, at least in order and nobleness, from such intelligences as his followers are wont to mean, when they speak of the *Aristotelian* spirits. For these are mundane intelligences (if I may so call them for distinction sake) whose constant, and for ought appears, only work it is, incessantly to move the celestial orbs; whereas those ultra-mundane intelligences, or rather divine spirits, of which I am going to give you his words, are above the highest heaven, and are not busied in keeping bodies in motion. *Quocirca* (which word shews the connexion of the following inference with the words above recited out of him) *neque apta sunt ea, quæ illic sunt, esse in loco, neque tempus senescere ipsa facit, neque ullius eorum ulla est mutatio, quæ super extima dispositæ sunt latione: sed nullis alterationibus, nullis passionibus prorsus subjecta optimam in universa sempiternitate vitam & sufficientissimam habent.*

AND now, I suppose, you will allow that I might observe, that by his way of mentioning the newly named ultra-mundane beings, *Aristotle* sufficiently intimates, that there are substances, which should be discoursed of in a particular way, that is not required when we discourse of the other beings of the universe; especially since he not only makes them unchangeable, but will not allow them to be so much as subject to time. But without too far pressing these difficulties, I shall represent to you, that partly concerning celestial intelligences, and partly about his superceleſtial spirits, *Aristotle* delivered such things, as are no less difficult to be conceived, than almost any of the mysterious articles of religion, that *Torquatus* reproaches as incredible, on the account of their being inconceptible.

Manlius. I SHALL be glad to hear reasons for this assertion.

Eleuth. I WAS just going to subjoin some of the principal of them.

AND first, since these intelligences are separate beings, and on this account immaterial, as on the former rational, all the puzzling difficulties, that attend the notion of

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an incorporeal and intelligent spirit, as such, must be accounted for by him, that will maintain *Aristotle*'s doctrine. And how great and perplexing these difficulties are, especially to those that think we can understand but what we can imagine, has partly been intimated already, and may, if it be required, be farther shewn.

ANOTHER of these difficulties is afforded by the consideration of what I am next to mention. For *Aristotle* will have his intelligences to be the movers of the celestial orbs. But how an immaterial substance, that is, one that has no parts, wherewith it can lay hold on or touch a body, and either impel or draw it, can set it a moving, and keep it for many ages in a constant and regular, though stupendously rapid motion, is a thing that I fear will long remain unconceivable, at least to those that expect to have clear ideas and proofs of what they are to acquiesce in. Not to add to this difficulty, that of believing that a single intelligence should have so stupendous a power, as to move with an amazing swiftness so vast an orb, as that, for instance, of *Saturn*; which orb may be I know not how many millions of times bigger than the terraqueous globe, to which we usually give the title of world.

IF it were not to be too boldly inquisitive, I would gladly demand, whether these intelligences had any origin or not? and if they had, when, and from whom they had it? For since *Aristotle* will have the universe, and consequently the heavens, to be eternal, and the celestial orbs to be moved west to east but by these intelligences, these spirits must have been eternal too: and if so, they seem to be self-existent beings; and being also immortal, intelligent, and of vast power, what should hinder, but that *Aristotle*, and those that espouse his sentiments, must look on them as so many gods? And then not only polytheism must be allowed, but all the difficulties, how insuperable soever, that have been, or may be objected against the plurality of gods, must be surmounted; and an account must be given, by whom an eternal, wise, and powerful spirit, could have limits placed to its excellencies? And why it should be confined to a province, like that of the conduct of a single orb, and to do nothing in this orb itself, but to keep it in a constant and unvaried motion? But if it be said, that these intelligences were not self-existent beings, they must have been created by a higher being; and how so noble a substance as an intelligence, which far surpasses in excellency the noblest parts of all the corporeal universe, can be produced out of nothing, what proof soever may be brought for it, who can conceive?

IN the third place, not to mention that *Aristotle* will not allow, that without the visible heavens there is either place or vacuum, (though how both these together can be excluded is somewhat difficult to conceive) I observe, that he will have it, that his ultra-mundane spirits are not in any place; which prerogative belonging to them upon the account of their being immaterial spirits, ought not to be denied to those intelligences that move the orbs, and consequently the planets, which being sometimes above the earth, and sometimes beneath it, and having very different aspects, as trine, quadrate, opposition, *&c.* in reference to one another, either the spirits must move together with the planets they keep a moving, and so be sometimes in one place, and sometimes in another, which argues them subject to locality; or else they must move the celestial bodies without being present with them, and operate where they are not; which, how they should be capable of doing, he that is able to conceive, may, if he set his mind to it, find less obscurity in divers of the mysteries of religion. * * * *

Just. I DOUBT not, *Eleutherius*, but you can make further reflections on the difficulties that are involved in this doctrine of *Aristotle*, concerning intelligences celestial or divine. But perhaps our friend *Manlius* may be easier convinced of the abstruse nature and actions of immaterial spirits, if we give him an instance of it in that rank or order

order of theſe beings, that is generally looked upon as not the moſt ſublime, and which we have the greateſt opportunities to be well acquainted with.

Eleuth. I SHALL need to expreſs my approbation of the expedient you propoſe, only by deſiring you, as I earneſtly do, to enlarge upon it.

Juſt. ENCOURAGED then by ſo favourable a permiſſion, I ſhall repreſent to *Manlius* two things. The firſt is, that, as you juſt now truly hinted, the rational ſoul or human mind is, of all the incorporeal ſubſtances, that which we have the means, as well as intereſt, to know the beſt; ſince it is not only a familiar object, but ſo intimate, as to be the nobleſt part of ourſelves; and that the chief, not to ſay the only thing that is eſſential to it, and in a ſound ſenſe conſtitutes its nature, is, that it is conſcious to its own actions and operations, and that, at leaſt for the moſt part, not as it knows the circulation of the blood in the veins, or the ſecretion of gall in the liver, by a ratiocination upon ſenſible phænomena, but immediately by an internal ſenſe or perception.

AND to this firſt I ſhall add my ſecond reflection, whoſe nature makes it require a longer diſcourſe; that notwithſtanding theſe great and peculiar advantages we have for the knowledge of the faculties and operations of our own minds, yet the human ſoul is a myſtery even to herſelf, and in the ſpeculation of it ſhe is eaſily able to diſcover difficulties, which ſhe is very little able to clear. * * * *

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

WHEN I ſay that a ſpirit is incorporeal ſubſtance, he that I ſpeak to needs not employ (nor indeed properly can employ) his imagination, to form the notion or idea I would excite in his mind. And if he ſhould anſwer, that when he hears the words incorporeal ſubſtance, he imagines ſome aerial, or other very thin, ſubtil and tranſparent body, I ſhall reply, that this comes from a vicious cuſtom he has brought himſelf to, of imagining ſomething whenever he will conceive any thing, though of a nature uncapable of being truly repreſented by any image in the fancy. But if I ſhall add, that a ſpirit is a ſubſtance indiviſible, the portion of air or æther, by which he lately endeavoured to repreſent to himſelf a ſpirit, will be altogether improper; ſince neither the air, nor any other body, can be imagined without extenſion, and therefore without diviſibility (actual or mental); and conſequently this phantaſm, whatever it be, cannot (in ſound philoſophy) be a true notion or idea of a ſpirit, which is (or as it is) a ſubſtance indiviſible into parts. [Q. Whether there be any neceſſity that a corporeal idea, or an image drawn on the fancy, ſhould intervene to frame the conception, when we ſay, *ex nihilo nihil fit?*]

BECAUSE the uſe of imagining, whenever we would conceive things, is ſo ſtubborn an impediment to the free actings of the mind, in caſes that require pure intellection, it will be very uſeful, if not neceſſary, to accuſtom ourſelves not to be ſtartled or frighted with every thing, that exceeds or confounds the imagination; but by degrees to train up the mind (if I may ſo ſpeak) to conſider notions that ſurpaſs the imagination, and yet are demonſtrable by reaſon. Thus, though we can ſcarce repreſent to ourſelves the ſun much bigger than he is wont to appear to our eyes, yet aſtronomy compels us to have a quite other idea of its magnitude, by ſhewing us that it many times exceeds that of the whole earth. And ſo, when looking upon the ſide and diagonal of a ſquare, we are wont to imagine it an eaſy thing, to aſſign ſome known meaſure, that being ſo many times taken, will exactly meaſure both thoſe lines, and ſhew their rational proportion: and yet a mind accuſtomed to geometrical demonſtrations will be convinced, that among a million of different quantities, no one, that can adequately

adequately measure the shorter of these two lines, will likewise measure the longer; though this proposition be a paradox, that quite puzzles and surpasses the imaginative faculty.

WHEN we discourse of infiniteness, or of almost any thing or any subject to which it may belong, we usually deceive ourselves, and mistake the first grand objection we meet with, for the only we are to surmount: whereas we shall often find, that the solution of one difficulty about infinity starts others, and new ones, which may perhaps be found more perplexing than that we first encountered.

DIVERS (for I cannot say all) of those school philosophers, and others, that plead so earnestly for the necessity of the rational souls (or the minds) contemplating, or making use of phantasms in all its intellectual operations, have not perhaps well considered, that themselves deny not, that in extasies, the mind does (at least sometimes) act without turning herself to corporeal phantasms. And since both *Aristotle* and his followers allowed immaterial intelligences, such as they supposed to move the celestial orbs, it would be hard for them to deny, that these incorporeal spirits can act without the help of corporeal images. And this consideration will hold against those Christian philosophers and divines, who, whether or no they admit the celestial motors, newly mentioned, do believe that there are angels in the received notion of that name.

Eleuth. I PRESUME, *Justinus*, that your concern for the truth you maintain, will keep you from being offended, if I add, in favour of it, that, in my opinion, divers things are thought unintelligible, only because they are not clearly proposed, and dexterously explicated. Argument. III.

Just. YOU need not doubt, *Eleutherius*, that I shall willingly admit, or rather welcome, so good a second; and I have great disposition to assent to the judicious reflection you have offered: which therefore you have not only my consent, but my desire, to illustrate.

Eleuth. I CONCEIVE, then, that divers mysteries and other articles of the Christian religion would meet with much less opposition among men of parts, if they were warily and dextrously proposed. For oftentimes the difficulty does not lie so much in the thing itself that is revealed, as in the additions of schoolmen, and others, that pass for men versed in philosophy or other learning, have unskilfully or needlessly affixed to it. Thus they have given us such notions of eternity, as it will be very hard for considerative men to comprehend or admit, and which are encumbered with difficulties, that I doubt are scarcely, if at all, superable: and yet these may be avoided, if without affecting mysteries unwarranted by scripture, and nice speculations, that are as well unnecessary as perplexing, it were simply declared what, without incongruity to revelation, right reason may lead us to think of the true notion of eternity. And how much the skilful or unskilful way of proposing a doctrine, may help to recommend or discommend it to a discerning man, I think may be guessed at by some things purely physical: as when the Peripatetics tell us of a *materia prima*, that is devoid of all forms, nay, and is *neque quid*, *neque quale*, *neque quantum*, *&c.* they would impose upon the understanding a thing that is liable to insuperable difficulties and objections. Whereas if we look upon matter, as being only as a substance extended and impenetrable, which by means of motion is capable of being divided and variously modified, those puzzling difficulties may easily be avoided. And so when vulgar philosophers assert that particular bodies, as a plant, a meteor, a metal, *&c.* does each of them consist of the common matter and a peculiar form, they say nothing that may not be admitted even by true philosophers. But when they will have these forms,

that are but essential, to be substantial, as they call them, and yet neither material nor incorporeal substances; and when they will attribute to them such ways of being produced, and of inexisting, and of operating, as the schools lay so much stress on, they incumber the notion of a form with superfluous things, that make it not only unintelligible, but inconsistent with some of their own doctrines, or with the obvious dictates of reason. Divers intricate questions in theology about man's free will, and the operations of the intellect upon the will, and of the will upon the intellect, may probably, as I have elsewhere shewn, be avoided, by giving such a notion of the freedom of the rational soul, as justly owns its dependance on the first cause, but does not suppose the understanding and the will to be true faculties, really distinct from each other, and from the mind they belong to, which may determine itself from within immediately, or without the intervention of faculties, as the generality of divines think it necessary to acknowledge God to do. * * * *

THE second of the two things I formerly mentioned, as those that induced some men of parts to quarrel with the Christian religion, as delivering some things that are unconceivable, is a moral indisposition to admit the religion in general, and especially those mysterious articles of it, that they complain of as not intelligible. To this indisposition many more things may contribute than I have now time to mention; for which reason I shall take notice, and that but very briefly, of three, that seem to be the most ordinary, and may be reckoned too among the principal.

AND first, it is but too easy to observe, that many that complain of the obscurity of several points of the Christian religion, are such as will not give themselves the trouble of such a serious application of mind, as is for the most part necessary to the successful study of difficult truths. For these require both attention and patience to persevere long enough in that attention, which are things whereto the lazy or fastidious enquirers I speak of, are generally strangers; being of *Pilate*'s temper, who, when he had disdainfully enquired of him, that was abler than any man in the world to inform him, what is truth, applied himself to other things without staying for an answer. These and the like reflections may keep us from concluding, that every article of religion is unconceivable, that is censured as such by men that do not think it worth their pains to exercise that application of mind in the scrutiny of them, that is necessary to discover whether they be really intelligible or not. And this conclusion will appear very reasonable to him, that having had the patience and skill to examine the demonstrations of the tenth book of *Euclid*, and those of some propositions delivered by *Archimedes*, *Apollonius*, *Pergæus*, and *Pappus*, shall consider what great and lasting application of mind was necessary even to those sublime wits, to attain to such uncommon truths; and how unreasonable it is to think, that nothing can be a truth that may not be easily discovered to be so, especially by such men, as, like too many of those I have been speaking of, have so accustomed themselves to study nothing but historical, poetical, or such other kinds of books, that do as much as recreate as exercise the mind, have by an ill habit made themselves no less unfit for difficult speculations, than they are unwilling to go through with them; which it cannot well be hoped such men should do, that, undervaluing the plain and perspicuous doctrines of religion, shew that they think the abstruse ones not worth the trouble of a laborious scrutiny. * * * *

Justinus. THE other thing that I had to represent about the objection of those, that censure some articles of our religion on this account that they cannot conceive them, is, that divers of these articles are not unconceivable to them, that are duly qualified to penetrate the darker sort of truths: and that one main reason (for others are mentioned in this conference) why these censorious persons find themselves unable to conceive

ceive, is, because they will needs attempt to do it, without acquainting themselves with those disciplines, or being furnished with those previous notices, that are necessary by way of preparation to fit the mind for the understanding of such abstruse things.

Eusеb. I THINK your reflection so just, that I have often considered, not without some indignation, the arrogance of several superficial wits, whose presumption and laziness so far exceeds their patience and industry, that they think they have a right to pronounce all truths, whether theological or philosophical, unintelligible, that cannot at the first attempt be comprehended, by the mere effort of their intellects, without being previously assisted by proper informations. * * * *

Justinus. I THINK we may, not unusefully with regard to our present purpose, distinguish truths into two sorts. For there are some that are of a more obvious, or at least a more easily attainable kind, as lying nearer to the principles from which they may be deduced, or to some other collateral proofs from whence they may be inferred. And there are other truths of a more difficult discovery and penetration, because they either lie much more remote from the spring head, if I may so speak, or the fundamental principles they depend on, and therefore require a chain of mediums to infer them by, or else require to be expressed in such terms of art, as a man will not understand without previous instruction, and an intellect capable of comprehending more than obvious or easy truths.

To illustrate this a little, by what is observed about the noblest and most conspicuous inanimate body in the world; when a man desires to understand how the sun comes to be sometimes eclipsed, one may quickly satisfy him, by telling him, that at those times the opacous body of the moon, happening to be interposed between the sun and the earth, keeps those beams of his, by which it should be enlightened, from falling on it. And if the enquirer will further know why the sun never, without a miracle, suffers eclipses but at the new moon, the answer needs be but short, namely, that she can never at other times directly interpose between the sun and the earth. But if the same enquirer would understand how it comes to pass, that within the compass of a year there are but few months wherein eclipses happen at the new moon, in comparison of those wherein the conjunction of the sun and moon produces no eclipses; the querist cannot be so easily resolved about this question as about either of the foregoing; because the solution of the difficulty depends upon some knowledge of the motions of the moon with relation to the ecliptic, which is peculiar to astronomers. And if he further desire to understand, why the days are so much longer in *June* than they are in *December?* Why at the same times of the year they are much longer in some countries than in others? Why the crepusculum or twilight lasts very much longer in the midst of *June* than in that of *September?* Why in some countries the sun by his presence and absence makes the days and nights always equal throughout the year; whereas in some others it makes a day of one, two, or three months long, and a night of the same duration? If, I say, our enquirer would understand these and the like things, or any of them, he cannot be made to do it by a short answer, expressed in the common forms of speech, but he must take the pains to learn the elements of astronomy, and the terms employed by those that teach it. * * * * *

* * * IT is far from being all one, to consider a proposition as an absolute one, and to consider it as part of a system, where it is linked, and as it were enchaced by others that are manifestly true, or granted, or demonstrable: as also there is a great difference, whether a proposition have premised to it what mathematicians call lemmata (that is truths previously demonstrated) purposely to clear it or not. For a thing considered in itself may seem false, or very unfit to be believed; which yet, when it is

legitimately deduced from other truths, or is shown to have a strict connexion with them, ought for their sakes to be freely admitted. So that though it might be credulity to have assented to the solitary proposition, yet it is not credulity, but a rational belief, to assent to the proposition when it is contained in manifest truths, or deducible from them. We must indeed judge first of the touchstone; but if we acquiesce in that, we must then judge by it. * * *

Argument IV. * * * * IF to what I have hitherto discoursed it be objected, that if any article of faith surpass our reason, however we may pretend to believe it, we really do not consider what we say. For faith is an assent to a revealed proposition upon the authority of the revealer: and since every assent (at least every rational one) either is, or includes an act of the understanding, which presupposes a knowledge of the thing assented to, we cannot possibly assent to, nor consequently believe any thing, that we do not understand or have not a notion of.

THIS objection, I confess, is specious and considerable, but does not overthrow the discourse it oppugns. And to invalidate it I must take leave to propose a distinction, which, though perhaps it may seem new, will not, I hope, appear either groundless or useless. I think then that there are two kinds of notion that men have of the same thing, or two degrees of knowledge about it: the first I call superficial or popular, the other accurate and satisfying.

Vid. reflect. on a Theolog. Distinct. § 14.

BY the former I mean such a conception of a thing, as suffices to discriminate it from other things, and give it a distinguishing appellation; though really the person that has this notion, may not have attentively considered the object of it, and much less have fully penetrated its nature, and become able to give himself a well-grounded satisfaction concerning the difficulties that may occur about it.

AND by the latter kind of notions, I mean those that are accompanied with a great insight into the nature of the thing one contemplates, together with the ability to give a rational account of the difficulties, wherewith the conception one embraces appears or may be shewn to be incumbered. These differing conceptions of the same thing may, I think, be illustrated and exemplified by the conceptions we have of time, place, local motion, continual quantity, and some few other things, that may be called primordial or primary, in respect of almost all the other things we are wont to treat of. For when, for instance, we talk of space, or place, we do not speak like parrots, in whom the words are not accompanied with any idea answerable to the thing spoken of. For we have a superficial notion of it, by which we distinguish it from time and motion, and convey the like notion to those that hear us; and so are able to understand one another, and make use of these popular, though but confused conceptions, to divers useful purposes. But then, if we go about to pry narrowly, and dive deep into the matter, we shall find the nature of space to be a very abstruse thing, and even the most received notions about it to be liable to such difficulties and objections as are exceeding hard to be solved, if they be not altogether unanswerable by our imperfect reason; as those will scarce deny, that have, with me, attentively and impartially considered this subject. * * *

Vid. reflect. on a Theolog. Distinct. § 16.

AND I must here take leave to consider what is not wont to be observed, even by philosophers or divines; that there are two senses, if I may so call them, in which it may be said that a thing is unconceivable, or implies things repugnant to the dictates of reason. For some things, *&c.* [Vide Reflect. upon a Theolog. Distinct. Sect. XII.]

* * * * AND I shall add, that as for that most familiar thing local motion, though modern as well as ancient philosophers and mathematicians have bestowed much time, and great pains, to explicate the nature of it; yet by arguing even about a thing, that those who have not examined it presume they know very well, we may bring our under-

understandings into perplexities from whence they will scarce be able to extricate themselves, &c. [Vide Reflections on a Theolog. Distinction, &c. Sect XXVII.]

* * * * THOUGH in common discourse it is usual enough to employ promiscuously the words unintelligible or inconceivable, incomprehensible and incredible; and though I also do not always scruple to comply with custom in use of these terms, where there is no need of accurateness or nicety: yet on occasions that require that a man be critical in his expressions, I think it very fit and useful to avoid confounding these terms, which on such occasions challenge distinct notions. By the word, therefore, inconceivable, or unintelligible, may be understood such a thing as we cannot frame an idea or conception of, that is not either self-destructive (as having one part inconsistent with another); or else clearly repugnant to some manifest and acknowledged truth, whether taught us by mere reason, or by natural reason assisted by revelation. By incomprehensible may be meant such a thing, as though we may frame symmetrical ideas of it (*i. e.*) such as are consistent within themselves, and not repugnant to any known truth; do yet contain or involve divers things, that we are not able throughly to penetrate, and perfectly to understand. And by incredible things may be understood those, which, whether or no they belong to either of the former sorts, are not accompanied with such evidence of reason, as either do not probably, or at least do not sufficiently prove their truth, notwithstanding the objections that seem to make them altogether unfit to be assented to. * * *

THE other, and indeed the grand objection, by which philosophical adversaries endeavour to shake the faith of Christian philosophers, is, that the Christian religion enjoins the belief of some mysteries that are incomprehensible. * * * * "For first, "a man can scarce have been very well versed in the mysteries of nature, without "having met with some things, if not many, so abstruse, as to reduce him to a "sense or internal confession of his being unable fully to comprehend them. And "though a skilful mechanical philosopher may plausibly explicate many of these "difficult phænomena in a general way, so as to shew that they may be possibly be "produced according to mechanical principles; yet the particular modus continues in "the dark; and even the general explications suppose such a fabrick of the world, "and such an origin, and such laws of motion, as involve difficulties that confound "our weak understandings."

BUT without further pressing this, let me add in the next place, "that if a free and "impartial philosophizer have given his understanding the noble exercise of endeavour"ing to penetrate the obscurity and difficulties, that attend what opinion soever is "pitched upon, about the endless divisibility of quantity, the infinity of space or "extension, and the eternity either of God or of matter, he will (as far as I can judge, by "what has happened to me and divers others) sufficiently be convinced by his own "experience, that they are disproportionate to our understandings. And he may also "sensibly find, by studying the sacred writings, that it was fit that some things of that "sort should be declared by God, concerning his own nature, and his unparalleled "manner of existing and of operating. And therefore he will not be seduced from "believing a mystery, by its being incomprehensible, if the force of the proofs that "recommend it to his belief be not so, but on the contrary be clear and cogent; "such as the proofs of a doctrine perspicuously delivered in the holy scripture must "appear to all those unbiassed men, that are satisfied of that book's having a truly "divine authority. So that, on one hand, a man's own experience may assure him, "that there be truths incomprehensible to his reason: and on the other hand, the "most authentically conveyed testimony of others, who wrought or recorded the mi"racles mentioned in the Gospel, may assure him that he may safely, notwithstanding

"their

" their incomprehenſibleneſs, believe thoſe myſteries that ſuch ſupernatural experi-
" ments bear witneſs to." * * *

* * * THOUGH we know the more of any object, and ſo of God, the more of his properties or attributes we are acquainted with; yet this augmentation of knowledge is itſelf a mark and effect of the imperfection of it: ſince thoſe different conceptions of a divine object, whoſe nature is moſt ſimple, flow from the incapacity of our limited and imperfect underſtandings, to frame a conception that ſhall comprehend the infinitely perfect nature of God in one ſingle and ſimple idea; and therefore we are reduced to conſider and repreſent him as it were in parts; contemplating him ſometimes as omnipotent, and ſometimes as wiſe, and ſometimes as juſt, *&c.*

THERE are divers definitions, which, as they are commonly framed, are taken from the things defined, as they are found in the creatures; and on that ſcore theſe definitions are not to be accounted true, full, and abſolute ones, and are often erroneouſly applied to God and to divine things. But if the definition were made in its due and full extent, it might perhaps be applicable, though not adequate, to God, *&c.* * * *

AND on this occaſion give me leave to tell you, that even ſetting aſide God (whom thoſe that acknowledge him will confeſs to be incomprehenſible) I fear we men have too good a conceit of ourſelves, when we think that no ſuch thing can have an exiſtence, or at leaſt have a nature or being, as we are not able to comprehend. For if we believe God to be the author of things, it is rational to conceive that he may have made them commenſurate, rather to his own deſigns in them, than to the notions we men may beſt be able to frame of them. On which occaſion I would crave leave to repreſent, that it appears by the hiſtory of the creation, that the world itſelf was firſt made before the contemplator of it, man: whence we may learn, that the author of nature conſulted not, in the production of things, with human capacities; but firſt made things in ſuch manner as he was pleaſed to think fit, and afterwards left human underſtandings to ſpeculate as well as they could upon thoſe corporeal, as well as other things. And if the world were not made by God, but was eternal, as the old Peripatetics thought it; or was made by chance, as the *Epicureans* held; there is yet leſs reaſon to believe, that there is any neceſſity that the nature of primitive things muſt be commenſurate to our underſtandings; or that in the origin of other things any regard was had, whether they would or would not prove comprehenſible to men. * * * *

Argument V. * * * * * THERE is no neceſſity, that intelligibility to a human underſtanding ſhould be neceſſary to the truth or exiſtence of a thing, any more than that viſibility to a human eye ſhould be neceſſary to the exiſtence of an atom, or of a corpuſcle of air, or of the effluviums of a loadſtone, or of the fragrant exhalations of a roſe. And here we may obſerve, that even by the ſame ſenſe ſome creatures may diſcern things, that may not be perceptible to others: as no attention or application of the organ (or the noſe) will enable a man to perceive the effluvia expiring from the ſtale footſteps of a hunted and unſeen hare, or deer; though hounds, and eſpecially blood-hounds, will have a vivid perception of ſuch odours, and by their help trace and purſue the flying and unſeen beaſt. * * * *

THERE are, as I conceive, two differing accounts, upon which things may be ſaid to be incomprehenſible. For firſt, ſome things there are, which ſeem not in their own nature to be beyond the comprehenſion of a human intellect abſolutely conſidered, or in its full extent; and which are not comprehended by us, but either becauſe they are not propounded and declared in as intelligible a way as they might be; or elſe becauſe we want fit mediums to raiſe and enlighten the mind, as far it is capable of being aſſiſted, and as far as the ſublimity or abſtruſeneſs of the object requires. Thus the ſatellites of *Jupiter*, and the ſeparate ſtars, that all of them together make the milky way

way, are not discernible by our naked eye, only because they are not qualified to receive beams enough of light to make the particular stars visible, and yet the same eyes can manifestly and distinctly see them, when they are assisted by a good telescope; which medium those that are destitute of, can no otherwise than in vain strive to discern such remote though luminous objects. But there is also, I conceive, another sort of things incomprehensible, which are so, not out of a want of means to declare them to us, as far as we are able to be informed, but out of a want or capacity, or, if you please, of extent and penetration, that belongs to the mind itself, as it is of no higher an order of intellectual beings than human souls are. So that whatever pains be taken to instruct the understanding about some mysteries, its own limited and imperfect nature will keep it from a full comprehension of them. An analogical instance of this may be taken from the limitedness of our power to discern sensible objects, what attention or application soever we employ about them. Thus, for instance, if a marble cube (or dye) of an inch every way be brought me, I can easily by my fingers, though my eyes are shut, perceive the figure of it to be cubical: and so I can if a cube of but half, or perhaps a quarter as great a bulk, be put into my hands that I may find the figure of it. But if a heap of very fine powder of marble be brought me, I can by no attention and diligence in feeling, discern the figure of those very minute grains of stone, that may chance to be cubical, or that of these other single grains of powder that are not so; because I cannot grasp one of these with my hands, as I could do the first or second entire cube, nor apply my fingers to its little faces and angles, so as to perceive what distinct shape it is of. And thus, though the eye cannot without help discern the eggs of a cheese mite, or the hair that grows on the moving speck; and though by the help of a good microscope the eye may plainly discover them; yet no microscope will enable it to see the minutest corpuscles, that compose a great part of the air, nor the eel-like particles, that the *Cartesians* think water to consist of; because the fibres, or other parts of the retina, or of the principal part of that organ that vision is made upon, are not fine and tender enough to be moved and affected by such very minute particles as those we are speaking of. So that the invisibility of these does not proceed from the want of instruments, or helps of vision, but from the original imperfection or disability of the eye itself, which in its own natural constitution, though industriously assisted, is disproportionate to the objects attempted to be clearly discovered by it. * * * * *

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

IN my opinion it is both strange and unjust, that our quarrellers with religion should require, that we, that embrace it should give them clear and direct solutions of all the difficulties, which (perhaps not without racking their wits to find them) they are able to object against theological mysteries, whilst in the mean time themselves are not able to give a satisfactory account of the difficulties, that attend the distinct explication of merely corporeal, and perhaps too very familiar subjects. Insomuch, that those very men rigorously exact that we should explain to them the mysteries of the Trinity, or the incarnation of the second person of it, that cannot clearly shew, what keeps the parts of the least portion of matter together, or how, when they have a mind to speak, their own souls can direct the animal spirits to all the little organs, that are necessary to the formation of a vocal discourse, without knowing how the vocal organs are framed and seated, or perhaps so much as whether they have this or that particular muscle (for instance) in their body or not.

THOUGH

THOUGH God may oblige us to believe propoſitions, that contain ſomething that is incomprehenſible to us, yet he obliges us but to believe, not to underſtand them, that is to aſſent to a propoſition as true becauſe he aſſerts it, but not to have a clear and determinate notion of the nature of the ſubject; or at leaſt ſuch a one as is free from perplexing, if not inſuperable difficulties.

BECAUSE there belongs to numbers a kind of infinity, or ſomewhat that is near of kin to it, we muſt, if we want not attention or ſkill, diſcover by the incompetency of our utmoſt endeavours the boundedneſs of our human underſtandings; ſince when we have propoſed a determinate number as great as we are able to aſcend to, yet we are ſenſible that it is not abſolutely the greateſt of numbers, ſince it may be augmented by the addition of an unite, or an aggregate of unites.

WE muſt not ſuppoſe that, at leaſt in our preſent ſtate, our reaſon and other faculties are given us, to reach all that are knowable, even as to corporeal creatures; but only things that are in ſuch a ſphere of intelligibility, that they are proportioned to our preſent faculties, and convenient for our notice in our preſent ſtate or condition. As our eyes are not given us to ſee all that is viſible, and might be diſcovered by us, in caſe they were framed, ſometimes like teleſcopes, and ſometimes like microſcopes; but to diſcover thoſe viſible objects which are not ſo very minute, or ſo remote from us, but that it may concern us in point of ſafety or welfare, to diſcern and diſtinguiſh their bulk, diſtance, figure, colour, *&c.*

Argument VI.

Juſtinus. THERE is, gentlemen, another reflection, that I muſt by no means leave unmentioned, before I diſmiſs *Authades*'s third objection. For whereas moſt of the grand difficulties in Chriſtianity, whoſe abſtruſeneſs is wont to offend ſuch as he, are afforded by ſome things, that are in the holy ſcripture delivered about God's nature, and ſome of his attributes; and about ſome ways of acting that are, together with their ſtrange effects, aſcribed to him: to remove, I ſay, or leſſen theſe difficulties, I conſider and repreſent that, "ſince God is a moſt ſingular being, it may be juſtly "thought, that many things may belong to him, or may be truly ſaid of his attri-"butes and operations, that are inexplicable and unmatched."

THIS will appear the more probable, if we conſider, that though we have abundant cauſe to believe, that God is by unmeaſurable degrees ſuperior to his works; yet there are many of his creatures, and things, that depend on him, that have a very peculiar, and (if I may ſo call it) monadical nature, which makes them very different from all the other beings we are acquainted with. * * * *

* * * THAT ſome rules, that reach to all the creatures they are capable of being applied to, will not hold in God, may appear by this, that though eſſence and exiſtence are different or ſeparable things in created beings, they are not ſo in God. And though even the rational ſoul (or mind) is, according to divines and philoſophers, endowed with faculties properly ſo called, and diſtinguiſhable from its eſſence, yet in God it is generally acknowledged to be otherwiſe, according to that received axiom; *Quicquid eſt in Deo, Deus eſt.*

* * * AND therefore we are not to wonder or be ſtartled, if a nature ſo ſublime, and in divers points ſo unparallel as that of God, cannot be thoroughly explained or illuſtrated by any other, upon the ſcore of a competent reſemblance; and cannot be fully comprehended by a faculty ſo diſproportionate unto it, as is our human intellect; which yet is ſo much more limited in its nature, than it is uſually in its preſumption, that in moſt men, what it is not able clearly to underſtand, it is forward to reject and cavil at. And the ſame ſublimity and abſtruſeneſs of the divine nature, which

which provokes this arrogance of the intellect, does supply it with very plausible arguments to make this arrogance appear reasonable; since the difficulties, that incumber the theories of monadical and primary beings, whose nature is much less remote from, and far less disproportionate to our faculties, than that of God is, have some of them proved insuperable to human reason.

I COME now to the last consideration I shall employ to induce you to think, that divine mysteries, such as Christians acknowledge to be here and there recorded in the scripture, are to be assented to, though we cannot fully conceive them. For since we have lately seen that even the best philosophers themselves confess, that there are some truths, which our bounded reason is not able fully to comprehend, we ought not to think it incongruous or incredible, that divers things relating to God's nature, and some others relating to his attributes, decrees, and actings, should not be fully comprehended by us; for here I consider, that, before it pleased God, out of his exuberant goodness, to make some communications of himself *ad extra*, he was not only a singular, but the single being, there being no real one besides himself. And so when he was pleased to create other beings, as he did it freely and uncompelled, so he gave to each of those he created such a nature, and such determinate faculties and powers as he pleased. And of the beings, which he created intelligent, among which are the rational minds of men, he endowed each sort or order with such a measure or degree of the intellectual faculty, as he thought fit, for the ends and purposes for which in his infinite wisdom he created them; but to none of these did he impart a knowledge boundless as his own, that infinite knowledge being the essential prerogative of God, and not communicable to any mere creature.

BY what Jesus Christ, speaking of the precise time of his coming to judge either the Jews, or the world, pronounces, that no man knows it, no, not the angels in heaven, nor the Son of man, that is, the Messiah himself, but the Father only; from this gradation, I say, and the exaggeration that accompanies it, we may very probably gather, first, that there are different orders of intellectual beings (which may be confirmed by what the apostles teach of angels and archangels, and also of thrones, principalities, and powers, &c.) Secondly, that these different orders are endowed with differing measures of knowledge. And thirdly, which makes principally for our purpose, that none of these are such degrees of illumination, as to enjoy a knowledge equal to that God.

UPON how many accounts God is a most singular being, our dim and bounded intellects are not able to enumerate or discern, but some prerogatives are manifest enough: As 1. God's self-existence, and his having his actual existence included in the idea of his essence. Next, his independency from the other beings whatsoever. 3. His eternity. 4. His self-sufficiency. 5. His omniscience. 6. His immensity and omnipresence. 7. His simplicity, or immunity from all composition. 8. His being the cause of the universe, and all the created substances that compose it. So that, indeed, he is the only substance, in the strict sense of that word, as it is taken in, when it is defined a being that subsists of itself; since no being but God can subsist by its own power, but must be continually upheld by the constant influx of the conserving power of God. There are divers other properties, that distinguish God from all other beings, and exalt him far above them. It would lead us into an obscure maze, if I should attempt to enlarge upon each of the newly mentioned particulars; and the simplicity alone and infinity, that are unanimously ascribed to the Divine Nature, when they came to be somewhat attentively looked into by theologisers, reduced them to confess, that though justice and mercy, and many other

attributes, that some of them seem to be contrary to one another, may be truly ascribed to God, yet in effect they are but inadequate notions of the same most simple being, and that reason of teaching such attributes to be found in God, is that by reason of the imperfection of our understandings, which cannot at one view give us an entire idea of that perfect being, we are reduced to frame inadequate notions of his perfections, that we may, as far as we can, have an idea in parcels of what we cannot comprehend at once: but I must not lose myself by further prosecuting this discourse, but desiring you to recal to mind, what was not long since delivered about those, that philosophers themselves acknowledge not to be sufficiently comprehensible by our limited intellects; I shall hasten to make some short application of the past discourse.

To the third objection, it was answered:

1. THAT our knowledge is very imperfect, even of natural things.

2. THAT if there be scarce surmountable difficulties in the conceptions of things corporeal, it ought to be granted, that there are greater in things spiritual and supernatural.

3. THAT divers things are thought unintelligible, only because they are not clearly proposed and dextrously explicated.

4. THAT of divers things, we can have an idea, which, though somewhat dim and indistinct, may yet be true, and to some good purposes useful, though it be not clear and satisfactory. And that of other things we may have a true conception, that is produced by illation, though not by intuition, or clear and direct view.

5. THAT reason ought to acknowledge, that there are or may be some things not comprehensible by her, whilst left to her own natural light; and that *Aristotle*, *Cartesius*, and *Gassendus*, have confessed it.

6. THAT God being a most wise and singular being, many things may be justly thought to belong to him, that are inexplicable and unmatched.

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

To judge any thing well of some sublime truths, that relate to God's nature and perfections, a man must first descend into himself, that is, into his own mind; which being created after the image of God, he may there discover, both many things that God is not nor can be, and divers things that God may in a sound sense be said to be. But then he must not stay there, but raise himself above himself, by contemplating less mediately and more directly the attributes of the Deity, as they belong to the true idea of the supremely perfect being; and differ from the notions we frame of the creatures; some of them in the very kind, as being no where to be found out of God; and the rest (which are in some sort participated by the creatures) in the infinitely superior degrees of perfection, and an immunity from all detracting or lessening limitations.

IF it be urged, that there are some things belonging to the notion of the Deity, that are unconceivable; I answer, that we ought not to think it strange, that a spiritual being of an incomparably more excellent nature than ours, should have some attributes, and be able to perform some things, that we men do not comprehend; since there are natures and phænomena even in the corporeal world, that distress and baffle our reason.

SOCRATES

SOCRATES might perhaps justly be commended, for drawing down philosophy from heaven to earth; but I much doubt, whether they do as well deserve our praise, who draw down speculative theology, and the notions of divine attributes, to resemblances to the inferior natures of created beings.

SINCE men themselves can mathematically demonstrate the infinite divisibility of quantity, as for instance, of a line; God, who has an infinite intellect, may justly be supposed to have a distinct view of the manner of it, and not only know, that the line is divisible, without end, but comprehend how it is so, and must necessarily be so.

CONFERENCE IV.

Eleutherius. I PRESUME, gentlemen, that we shall the more chearfully fall upon the work of this meeting, because we have now made such a progress in *Authades*'s objections, that we are arrived at the last of the four, that we were told, at the beginning, he mainly relies on. And therefore it will be seasonable to desire *Manlius* to help us to dispatch the remaining part of our work, by giving us occasion to answer *Authades*'s fourth argument.

Manlius. IT may be easily proposed, gentlemen; but if *Authades* be not much mistaken, it will not be so easily answered; for he takes it for granted, and thinks all rational men do so too, that truth can never be contrary to itself, and consequently, that there is so perfect an agreement betwixt all truths, that any doctrine, that is contrary to any truth, must itself be no truth, but ought to pass for an absurdity, falsity, or an error. This being supposed as manifest by its own light, he considers, that reason is the faculty, that God has given men whereby to discern the settled relations and respects of things, and so to judge of the consistency and incompatibility of notions and dogms, and the agreement or contrariety of propositions, which is done especially when reason is assisted by philosophy, which being but reason improved by meditations, disciplines, and experience, he resolutely concludes, that divers ideas, dogms, and historical passages, that are proposed as articles of the Christian religion, cannot be rationally assented to, because they are repugnant to the dictates of philosophy.

Justinus. THE objection, I frankly confess, would be a very weighty one, if it could be as solidly proved, as it is specious, when proposed. It would perhaps appear, even to the proposer of it, to be sufficiently enervated, if I were allowed to produce here a couple of dialogues, made on different occasions, by our common friend Mr. *B.* to discuss *ex professo*, the two questions; in what sense faith may, and in what it may not, be said to be contrary to reason; and whether theology and philosophy do really contradict each other. And though I will not, without his permission, dispose of those writings, yet I know him to be so affectionate to the cause, that *Authades*'s objection strikes at, that since it is uncertain, when that discourse will be made public, if ever it be so; he will easily forgive me, if I borrow some passages of his dialogues, to mingle with, and strengthen those considerations, that on this occasion I shall offer in answer to the objection newly proposed by *Manlius*.

I SHALL then, in the first place, desire, it may be considered, that the word philosophy being on several accounts ambiguous, and particularly being sometimes employed in a more large and comprehensive, and sometimes in a narrower and more restrained sense; it is very possible, and perchance not very rare, that a proposition, or notion, may be looked upon as contrary to philosophy, without being so in reality. For those, that pass for philosophers, are divided into divers famous sects; such as the Argument 1.

Peripatetics and *Pythagoreans*, the *Eclectics*, the *Epicureans*, the *Stoics*, the *Platonists*, the *Hermetics*, and the *Cartesians:* and divers of those, as the *Platonists*, are also subdivided into several schools, as those of the ancients, the new and middle sort of academics: and yet it is not unusual for each of these sects or parties to be so fond of its own opinions, as to adorn the system, or aggregate of them, with the glorious title of philosophy, and its professors with that of philosophers, and that oftentimes exclusively to all others. And so when a *Peripatetic*, or an *Epicurean*, pronounces, though never so confidently, that this or that opinion is repugnant to philosophy, he means, that it is so to his. And an impartial, judicious by-stander will take the assertion in no other sense, and will not think it safe to conclude, that it is therefore repugnant to sound philosophy itself.

Eleuth. AND he acts but rationally, when he thus proceeds. For true philosophy is not to be sought for, only in the walks of *Aristotle*, nor the porch of *Zeno*, nor the gardens of *Epicurus*; for it is a thing of a more noble nature, and of greater extent, than the hypothesis of any one sect of philosophers, being indeed a comprehension of all the sciences, arts, disciplines, and other considerable parts of useful knowledge, that the rational mind can attain to, without supernatural revelation, by reason, that is improved by meditation, literature, exercise, experience, and any other help to knowledge. By which notion of philosophy one may easily discern, that it is unfit to confound *Peripateticism*, *Platonism*, *Stoicism*, or the peculiar dictates of any other particular sect, with philosophy itself, as if they were terms of the same import and extent. Though that sect seems to lay the most probable claim to the title of philosophy, that some call the *Potamonian* sect, others the *Eclectic*; since the professors of it did not confine themselves to the notions and dictates of any one sect, but in a manner include them all, by selecting and picking out of each that which seemed most consonant to truth and reason, and leaving the rest to their particular authors and abettors. So that in my opinion, one may compare the particular sects of philosophers to so many meadows, where flowers grow thinly and dispersedly, and the *Eclectic* party, or *Potamonian* sect, to a posey, that consists only of those several flowers gathered out of the several meadows, and united in one bundle.

Eusebius. To be convinced, that there is a great difference between philosophy, absolutely considered, or in its full extent, and the philosophy of a particular sect, as the *Peripatetics*, *Epicureans*, or *Stoics*, though it appropriate that name to the system of its own doctrines; we need but consider, how often, and how directly these several parties contradict one another, even about dogms of great importance. I will not urge, that the felicity or supreme good of man is, except God himself, the noblest object of human speculations, or at least that, which is of the highest concern to men; yet even about this so very important subject, philosophers have been so strangely divided in their opinions, that an ancient writer informs us, that there were in or before his time, no less, if I misremember not the number, than two hundred eighty-eight differing opinions of philosophers, concerning the *summum bonum.* This I shall not insist on. But perhaps it will be more proper to take notice of a few instances of the repugnant dogms of philosophic sects, about the efficient, the nature or principles, and some grand affections of things corporeal.

THE *Peripatetics* held the world, such for the main as it now is, to be eternal. *Anaxagoras* and his disciples held, that the world, as such, was preceded by a rude mass of matter, which by an intelligent mind (which was his famous νοῦς) was divided, and had its parts put into motion, and contrived into the world. And the *Epicureans*, together with *Leucippus*, *Democritus*, and other atomists, were so far from allowing the world to be either eternal, or made by a divine being, that they held it to be

but

but recent; and maintained, that it was formed only by the casual concourse and justlings of atoms. The *Aristotelians*, and divers other sects of philosophers, believed, that the world, as it had no beginning, so it shall have no end; whereas the *Stoics* held, that this present world of ours will be in the capacity of such a world, destroyed by fire. And the atomical philosophers, as *Democritus*, *Epicurus*, *&c.* taught, that this world of ours, as it was casually framed, so it may by several accidents happen to be dissolved. The *Aristotelians* asserted, that the three principles of all natural bodies are, matter, form, and privation. These the *Epicureans* slighted, and few, if any, of the other sects fully approved. The *Peripatetics* maintained, that *Quicquid movetur, ab alio movetur*, which dogm the *Epicureans* were so far from admitting, that they maintained, that every the least parcel of matter, that is found in the world, that is, every atom, has not only an intrinsic power of moving itself, but has it in so essential a way, that it can never lose it, though when it is joined with other atoms in concretions, that combinations may suspend the prevalent exertion of it. The *Aristotelians*, *Epicureans*, and most of the other sects of philosophers, as well as the generality of mankind, held the terraqueous globe to be immoveable, in the middle of the world: but *Pythagoras* and his sect, and, as I find by *Aristotle* himself, several *Italian* philosophers, held the sun to be in the middle of the universe, and that the earth is a planet, which, together with the other planets, does continually move about it. I might add that famous controversy about vacuum, in which the *Aristotelians* were great champions for the negative, which is also embraced by most of the other philosophers. And yet *Epicurus* and the rest of the atomists, did not only assert vacuum, both interspersum and (as they speak) coacervatum, but maintained, that without admitting at least the former, it was impossible there should be any motion among bodies. But it were too tedious to enumerate the repugnant dogms of the several sects of philosophers, even about principles, and other very weighty points. And I think, I have said more than is sufficient to shew, that, if we would shun acting either rashly or unskilfully, we must not be forward to conclude a mystery of faith, or other article of religion, to be contradictory to philosophy, absolutely taken, because it is so to the *Peripatetic* philosophy, or to that of some other particular sect.

Justin. I READILY grant, *Eusebius*, that you, that I know have read *Laertius* of the lives, and *Plutarch* of the dogms of the philosophers, besides other authors, that have treated of those subjects, may easily multiply instances of the contradictions, that may be met with among the famous sects of philosophers; nor do I doubt, that these you have already mentioned may sufficiently warrant you to infer, as I presume you intend, that it is not allowable to conclude, that, because this or that mystery of faith, or article of religion, is repugnant to the doctrine of this or that particular sect of philosophers, though perhaps approved by some others, it is therefore repugnant to philosophy itself. And as I readily grant you this, so I scarce doubt, but you will allow me, not only to make use of the repugnant sentiments of the several sects of philosophers, to throw off or weaken the objections grounded on their authority, but to take advantage of the credit of the dissenting parties, and the arguments they employ, one against another, for defence of the articles of religion.

THUS the arguments employed by the *Epicureans* for the novelty, as they express it, of this world of ours, may be very serviceable to a divine, for the confutation of the *Aristotelian* dogm of the eternity of the world, which is more unfriendly to religion, than its modern embracers seem to be aware of. And on the other side the doctrine of *Aristotle* and the *Platonists* too, (to mention no others about intelligent substances, that are immaterial, may be of good use against the *Epicureans*) who flatly denied all incorporeal substances. One may also oppose the authority

authority and doctrine of *Anaxagoras*, who asserted matter to be of itself moveless, and originally put into motion by a divine intellect, which out of that shapeless mass framed this beautiful world, to the contrary tenet of almost all the *Peripatetics*, and those other sects, that held the world to be unmade. And the same *Anaxagoras* may be made a champion against the *Epicureans*, who asserted the world to be produced by chance, and not by any intelligent and designing agent. Against the same *Epicureans*, who taught, that every atom had in it an essential and unlosable principle of motion, one may oppose the reputation and arguments of *Aristotle* and his followers, who taught, that *quicquid movetur, ab alio movetur.* * * *

Argument III.

Justinus. THAT it is one thing to contradict the sentiments of this or that church, and (*à fortiori*) of this or that school, or particular divine; and another to contradict an article of faith really delivered in the scripture.

As we did lately upon good grounds make a difference between philosophers and philosophy, so we may now with as good reason distinguish between theologers and theology; by the former appellation understanding those that assume, or have obtained the title of divines, preferable to other men of the same religion; and by the latter the body or system of these truths, that have been communicated to men by supernatural revelation, whose grand repository is that book we call the Bible.

I PRESUME it will not be difficult to induce you to allow of this distinction: for one needs not to be half so well acquainted, as those I speak to are, with ecclesiastical history, and the present state of the church in the world, to know, that ever since the first ages of Christianity, and in them too, as much as in others, the professors of that religion have been distinguished into various parties and sects, such as *Gnostics*, *Ebionites*, *Carpocratians*, *Manichees*, *Arians*, *Photinians*, *Eutychians*, *Nestorians*, and divers others, whose names are famous, and whose dogms, as to divers of them, have found approvers even to this day. Now these sects differing almost as much in dogms, as in affections, so that the embraces of the one called itself orthodox or catholic, and those of the other heretics, and on that account they persecuted, and as much as in them lay, damned their opponents, and sometimes (which was more certainly mischievous) killed them; it is obvious to conclude, that we may justly distinguish between an article, which this or that church holds to be of faith, and an article, that is indeed a part of theology, by being a supernaturally revealed truth; and consequently, that a tenet of this or that church may be contradicted by some philosophical principle or dogm; and yet sound philosophy, and orthodox divinity, continue good friends.

AND I shall by your permission, *Justinus*, presume to add, that though not only two or three churches or schools, but almost all those of Christendom, should agree in a dogm, such as it may be, that would not keep me from thinking, that even in this case, what you have been saying will hold good. For besides those revealed dogms, that are expressly, and as it were immediately delivered in the holy scripture, and may, on that account, for distinction's sake, be called primary, or more immediate ones, there are divers others, that may be stiled derivative, or less immediate dogms of divinity; because they are not so clearly taught in the sacred writings, but are (whether justly or not) presumed to be drawn thence by discourses and a chain of inferences grounded on principles of mere philosophy, and because they have been drawn by divines, and were subservient to some hypothesis of theirs; they were by them adopted into the family of theological verities, and many of them are to this day embraced on their authority by their admirers, as articles of faith. Now, little to the advantage of the Christian church, it has frequently happened, that these foreign doctrines have been deduced from the principles and tenets of particular sects, and especially those of the *Peripatetics*, many of whose dogms, that serve for foundations,

tions to the articles we ſpeak of, may be diſcovered by mere natural light to want ſolidity themſelves. Wherefore ſince in concluſions, that are drawn from premiſes of different kinds, ſuch as in our caſe are ſupernatural truths and philoſophical dogms, the concluſion muſt be of the nature of the weakeſt of the premiſes (according to that known rule in logics,) *Concluſio ſequitur debiliorem partem*; we have no more certainty of the truth of theſe reſulting doctrines, than we have of the truth of the philoſophical principle or dogm. And the concluſion of this ſort, though by divines received into the liſt of theological truths, may be repugnant to a genuine article of faith, without inferring a real contradiction between philoſophy and theology. Since true theology does not appear to be ſo concerned in the caſe, and all the contradiction is between a dogm of ſound and one of erroneous philoſophy.

Juſtinus. ANOTHER thing there is, which, if it be well conſidered and applied, may in ſeveral caſes take off the repugnancy that is pretended to be irreconcileable between ſome doctrines taught by the ſcripture, and ſome dictates of philoſophy, if not alſo of right reaſon itſelf. Argument IV.

Euſeb. I SHALL be glad to learn what ſo deſirable an expedient may be.

Juſtin. IT is (in ſhort) this, that many do not know, and more do not duly conſider, and rightly apply the ſeveral conditions, that are requiſite to make a true, and properly ſo called, contradiction, betwixt propoſitions or doctrines.

Eleuth. THESE conditions are not wont to be mentioned by the writers of logic; but by moſt of them, as far as I have obſerved, either lamely or obſcurely, or perfunctorily enough. And therefore it may conduce to the clearing of the ſubject you are upon, to take a diſtinct notice of them.

Juſtin. IF you will have it ſo, I ſhall obey you, by telling you, though not to inform either you or theſe gentlemen, but to refreſh our memories, that to make a contradiction, ſtrictly ſo called, between two propoſitions, there muſt concur four things as neceſſary conditions.

THE firſt is, that both the affirmation and the negation, that are oppoſite, be taken or underſtood *ſimiliter*, that is in like manner: as if it be ſaid by one man, that the ſun or a ſtar, when it is come to the meridian, neceſſarily moves downwards, and by another, that it does not move downwards; there may be no contradiction between them, in caſe the latter pretends only, that the ſun or ſtar does not move downwards in a ſtrait line, as if it fell directly towards the centre of the earth, (in ſuch a line, as mechanicians call the line of direction) and the other means, that in reſpect of its meridian height, it moves downwards towards the horizon in an oblique line. So to ſay, that "man is an animal neceſſarily produced by the congreſs "of a man and a woman;" and that it is "not true, that man muſt neceſſarily be "ſo produced," are propoſitions not irreconcileably repugnant, becauſe the former ſpeaks of production by generation properly ſo called, or made according to the courſe of nature, whereas the latter ſpeaks of production made by creation, which is a ſupernatural way, as in the caſe of *Adam* and *Eve*, that were both formed without the concourſe of man and woman.

Manlius. IF I miſremember not, *Juſtinus*, this firſt condition is left unmentioned by ſeveral of the writers of logic.

Juſtin. I SHALL not, *Manlius*, contend with you about that, not that I think the condition ſuperfluous; but becauſe it is poſſible the omitters of it preſumed it to be referable to one of the three other conditions, that remain to be mentioned.

THE firſt of theſe, which is the ſecond of the four, is, that the oppoſition be made *ſecundem idem*, as they ſpeak, that is according to the ſame part, or ſomewhat that is analogous to a part of the ſubject, that is ſpoken of. For ſome things are as

as it were compoſed of ſeveral natures, and very many things conſiſt of ſeveral parts ſeparable, either really, or at leaſt mentally. And that may be true, as to one part, which is not ſo as to another, or as to the whole ſubject, that conſiſts of thoſe parts properly or analogically ſo called. Thus man, who conſiſts of a rational ſoul and a human body, may be ſaid without contradiction to be mortal, and immortal; the latter in reſpect of his ſoul, and the former in reſpect of his body. Thus the earth may, without a true contradiction, be ſaid to be naturally incorruptible, and yet to be ſubject to corruption, if the former propoſition be meant of the whole globe, and the other of ſeveral particular parts of it. And in the vulgar hypotheſis of philoſophers and aſtronomers, it may be ſaid to be immoveable as to its entire body, but moveable as to ſome conſiderable parts of it, as has been manifeſted by the local changes made of great maſſes of terreſtrial matter, in ſome very notable earthquakes; and ſo it may without a contradiction be ſaid, that a negro is black, and that a negro is not black, if the former propoſition be made of his ſkin, and the latter of his teeth, which are uſually very white.

THE third condition is, that the oppoſition be *eodem tempore*, that is, that the repugnant propoſitions ſpeak not only of the ſame ſubject, and part of the ſubject, but of the ſame time. Thus it is no contradiction to ſay, that a roſe buſh flouriſhes, and a roſe buſh does not flouriſh, if in the former aſſertion one means in ſummer, and in the latter in the middle of winter.

THE fourth and laſt condition of a true contradiction is, that the propoſition, wherein it is ſaid to be found, be meant of the thing ſpoken of in the ſame regard, that is, in compariſon of, or with relation to the ſame third thing: as a man of ordinary ſtature may without contradiction be ſaid to be tall, namely in reſpect of a dwarf, and low, that is not tall, if he be compared to a giant.

Euſeb. IT will not be difficult, *Juſtinus*, to foreſee, what uſe you may make of what you come from ſaying.

Juſtin. TRUE, for it is obvious enough, that we may thereupon make this reflection, that ſince the concourſe of all theſe four conditions is requiſite to make a contradiction properly ſo called; there may be ſeveral revealed doctrines, which are pretended to be contradictory to ſound philoſophy or right reaſon, without being ſo in reality, becauſe in the oppoſition between theſe doctrines and the dictates, whereto they are preſumed to be repugnant, there wants ſome one, if not more of the conditions, that have been made appear, to be neceſſary to a true and irreconcileable contradiction.

Argument V.

Juſtinus. THERE is another conſideration, gentlemen, which, I preſume, it may not be impertinent to propoſe on the preſent occaſion. And it is this: There may be a current dictate of philoſophers, and even ſuch a one as paſſes for an unqueſtioned theorem of philoſophy itſelf, which yet cannot ſafely be relied on, if it be applied, either to things, for which it was not made, and is not proper, or to ſuch as are not clearly underſtood. And that therefore it is not neceſſary, that whatever article of religion is repugnant to ſuch a dictate or theorem, muſt be alſo repugnant to philoſophy and to right reaſon.

Eleuth. THOUGH I ſee nothing, that ſtartles me in what you have delivered, *Juſtinus*, yet ſince it ſeems to reliſh of a paradox, it will not miſbecome you to acquaint us with, at leaſt, ſome of the reaſons, whereon you ground it.

Juſtin. YOUR expectation is juſt, *Eleutherius*, and therefore to anſwer it, I ſhall deſire the company to conſider with me, that languages, at leaſt thoſe we commonly uſe, have been introduced by the vulgar ſort of men, whoſe apprehenſions of things are but narrow and ſuperficial; the natural weakneſs of their faculties, and their aſſiduous converſation with only ſenſible or familiar things, that it concerned them to ſpeak of to one another, keeping them from extending their thoughts to the great variety of things,

things, and from making deep inspections into the nature of almost any. But it is not only the unthinking vulgar, but learned men, and even famous philosophers, that have presumed to give us general axioms upon insufficient inductions, and without thoroughly penetrating the differing natures of the things included in those comprehensive axioms. Whence it is come to pass, that divers theological truths are held to be repugnant to philosophy, because they are so to these ill framed or misapplied notions or dictates.

Eleuth. IN favour of your sentiments, *Justinus*, I shall represent to *Manlius*, that, as children by reason of the infirmity of their understandings, and their fondness of the objects, that are proportioned to their present state and affections, mind little or nothing, but those objects, that gratify or offend their senses, or their imagination; so when men began to speculate a little, and were, as it were, in the infancy of philosophy, their reasonings and discourses were probably but narrow and superficial, and as they were suggested by, so they did not rise much higher, or reach much farther than those objects, that they were usually conversant about, and were conducive to their welfare, as they led an animal life, and were engaged in civil communities. And if this were the case of the generality of the first philosophers, it may well be presumed, that the theories they proposed, and to which their novelty and the authority of the propounders procured a ready assent among their unskilful disciples, were but narrow and superficial, and far from reaching to the vast extent, or penetrating into the hidden recesses of the nature of things. And though I deny not, that divers of the succeeding discourses did from time to time laudably improve the stock of knowledge left them by their predecessors; yet most of their improvements consisted rather in commenting upon the writings or sentiments of the first authors, or making some little supplements to the very defective systems of the founders of the doctrines they embraced. So that these additions were still made with a great regard to the sentiments of the founders, or early promoters of these doctrines, and not in full endeavours to lay more comprehensive and solid principles, and correct the methods themselves of philosophising, that were too often erroneous or defective, or both, and on these accounts very insufficient to elevate and enlarge the human understanding, which, without their higher improvements, must needs remain unfit for the nobler and more abstracted sort of metaphysical speculations.

Euseb. I AM glad, *Eleutherius*, to find the sentiments I have long had strengthened by their conformity to yours; for it seems to me, that most of the heathen philosophers, and several whole sects themselves, have in their framing their philosophical principles and tenets, and the natural theology, that was grafted on them, considered the more obvious and familiar things, about which they were conversant, such as those corporeal objects, that affect the senses, and others that may be of importance, whether good or bad, to human life and welfare. And I do not wonder, that a philosophy, that had such a beginning, should participate of the imperfection of its origin, and should not sufficiently elevate the mind, and qualify it for the contemplation and discernment of immaterial substances and abstracted beings, which perhaps were scarce so much as thought of, when the theories, that should reach them as well as other subjects, were framed and established. And it were to be wished, that a great number of Christian philosophisers were less liable to the like censure. But I fear, that almost all, that have left us discourses of natural theology, whether after or before the preaching of the gospel, have given us what, if you will pardon a rude expression, I shall venture to call a Creaturian theology; by which I mean a system of such definitions, notions, and articles, as has been suggested by the consideration of the creatures, and chiefly, if not only, adapted to them, without being

large enough to comprehend immaterial substances and abstracted beings, especially God himself and his divine perfections, to which probably little or no regard was had in the framing of those systems.

Eleutherius. PERHAPS, *Eusebius*, it may be opportune enough, to add to what you have been saying, that the *Peripatetics*, whose sect has for many ages afforded the greatest number of Christian philosophers, having taken most of their speculative doctrines relating to natural theology from their master *Aristotle*'s metaphysics, and partly also from his physical writings; it need be no wonder, that many, not to say most of the *Aristotelian* Christians, that have written of natural religion, have given great occasion to the opinion, that philosophy and theology are incompatible. For *Aristotle* was a Heathen, and destitute of divine revelation, which does not only disclose to a well disposed mind truths undiscoverable by its own mere abilities, but on several accounts affords much light to divers objects, that, though not quite beyond the sphere of reason, would, without that supernatural help, be but dimly discerned by it. And I must now make bold to say, that *Aristotle* was not only a Heathen, but was far enough from being one of the best Heathen philosophisers about God and divine things, there being several of the ancient philosophers, as *Plato* and *Pythagoras* (to name no others) whose discourses about the Deity and its attributes were much more sound, and less unsuitable to that infinitely perfect being, and his actions, than were those of *Aristotle*, of whom the excellent *Grotius* somewhere judiciously observes, that his sentiments appeared much more favourable to religion, in his exoterical writings, where he was to keep fair with popular readers, than in his acroamatical, where he delivers his sense as a philosopher. And yet the notions of this author, who was so ignorant of the principles of true religion, and so unfavourable to divers articles of it, has, by his own good, and by the church's bad fortune, had the luck to be for many ages taken for the great guide of Christian, and partly of *Jewish* philosophisers. For as I find the justly famous *Maimonides*, who has been long acknowledged the most learned and judicious of the rabbis, to have been very conversant in *Aristotle*'s philosophy, and (as I could easily justify, if it were proper, by many of his *Peripatetic* notions and tenets) was much addicted to it; so it is too notorious, that, till the last century, the generality of the Literati, among the Christians themselves, were bred up in a high veneration for *Aristotle*'s sentiments, and entertained them with little less than an implicit faith, though some of them not only were repugnant to several truths of the Christian religion, but (as our friend Mr. *B.* has somewhere shewn) manifestly tended to subvert the very foundation of natural religion, as far forth as this is grounded on an obligation to love and obey God, as the creator, or at least the immediate author of human nature, and the supreme rector of men and their affairs. But this is not a time and place to enlarge upon the ill aspect, that some of *Aristotle*'s dogms have upon religion, whether revealed, or even natural; what I have been obliged to mention being but to justify the (lately proposed) consideration, that since the opinions of a Heathen, whose notions of God were very obscure and defective, and divers of them very erroneous too, has had the luck for many ages to be cried up for the oracle of philosophy, we ought not to be much surprised, if we find divers sentiments, commonly received for philosophical notions and dogms, repugnant to those, which the holy scriptures teach as theological truths: nor ought it to disettle our minds, that a man, who ascribed a great deal too much to nature (whose works yet he did not throughly understand) and nothing to divine revelation, should assert, as universal axioms, things, that cannot warrantably be extended beyond created beings.

Eusebius.

Eusebius. You will, I presume, *Justinus*, allow me to put you in mind, that you lately intimated, that another consideration should accompany that, which you come from discoursing of.

Justinus. I DID not forget it, *Eusebius*, but was just ready to tell you that safely to rely upon divers things, that philosophers deliver, as definitions or dogms, it ought to appear, that they had clear and duly limited conceptions of the subjects, that are treated of, as well as that their notions and dictates are applied but to such subjects, as were sufficiently taken into consideration, when they were framed.

N. N. To the several considerations or arguments, that have been hitherto discoursed of, I must now propose one reflection, that I think to be of too great moment, in our present controversy, to be either wholly pretermitted, or but slightly considered.

N. T. SUCH a preamble gives me some impatience to know, what this important reflection is.

N. N. IT is in short this, that supposing, rather than granting, that there are some cases, wherein the dictates of philosophy, taken even in a large and favourable sense of that name, are repugnant to some articles truly grounded on divine revelation; in these cases, I say, one may, and ought to distinguish between human philosophy, and right reason, so that a doctrine may be flatly repugnant to the former, and yet be very reconcileable to the latter.

N. T. I AM willing to grant, that sound philosophy is, as * * * hath favourably described it, an aggregate, or, if you please, a system of the arts, sciences, and in short of all the disciplines, that men have been able to attain to by the natural light of reason. But then I must also represent, that mere philosophy is not the adequate instrument of knowledge, nor of equal extent with it. For philosophy, as such, can furnish the mind with no knowledge, but that, which is attainable by the light of merely natural reason; whereas the mind of man is capable of being endowed with many notices of a supernatural order, which it may receive from revelations contained in that book, which is commonly called the Bible.

To this observation, whose truth is manifest enough without farther proof, I shall add another, that I take to be no less evident; and it is, that, as reason is the proper judge of the agreement and disagreement, as well as of the truth and falshood of propositions and doctrines, so the judgments of reason are more or less authentic, and fit to be relied on, according as the informations they are grounded on are the more or less certain and full. So that those judgments are (at least in comparison of others) to be looked upon as the judgments of right reason, which the rational faculty passes, when it is perfectly informed, or at least as fully as it is necessary it should be, to enable it to determine rightly in the particular questions proposed to it.

FROM the two foregoing considerations laid together, I presume, I may infer, that mere human philosophy is not the adequate standard of human knowledge; and that the boundaries of the former may be much narrower than the limits of the latter; since all the knowledge, that mere philosophy can afford us, has been attained by the mere light of nature, whereas divine revelation is able to furnish the understanding with many ideas and notices of a supernatural order, and of great use, not only to increase our knowledge by discoveries wholly new, but, in divers occasions, to improve our former knowledge; the light of revelation doing to the intellect, what the sun beams do to the air, which they at once enlighten and expand.

N. N. To speak freely, gentlemen, I look upon philosophy, even that which is sound, but as an effect or production of right reason, and not the thing itself, and therefore not fit to be confounded with it, or as being, or to be looked upon as an

adequate ſtandard of truth, or ſo much as of human knowledge, whereby one may ſafely and exactly meaſure the extent of either.

N. T. You may add if you pleaſe, * * * that our philoſophy is ſo little fit to be taken for a ſure and adequate ſtandard of truth, I mean of that knowledge, that is attainable by right reaſon, that we can have no certain and ſtable ſtandard of philoſophy itſelf. For human knowledge, and by conſequence philoſophy but a part of it, muſt not be compared to *Adam*, who was at his full and compleat ſtature at his firſt production, but may juſtly be compared to an ordinary deſcendant of *Adam*, who at his firſt coming into the world is but a babe, and is reduced to paſs through childhood and youth, *&c.* before he arrives at the full ſtate of manhood. So that philoſophy, as well as knowledge, being a growing thing, we can as little take ſtable meaſure of it, as a taylor can take ſuch meaſures of a child of ſeven years old, as will continue to fit him during his whole life.

SINCE natural philoſophy, or phyſics, for example, is grounded, or at leaſt ſhould be, upon natural hiſtory, the diſcoveries made in latter ages of the *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Indies*, beſides many other countries, have ſo enlarged the hiſtorical knowledge of the phænomena of nature, and diſcloſed ſo great a number and variety of her productions, that were not known to the *Greek* and *Roman* philoſophers, that theſe diſcoveries cannot but have given ground to ſeveral alterations in phyſics. * * *

FOR my part, I look upon mere philoſophy as a thing much inferior to mere reaſon, and upon mere reaſon as no leſs inferior to right reaſon; for that intellectul faculty we call reaſon, neither needs nor ought to confine itſelf to the dictates of philoſophy, which, as * * * * lately and truly noted, is a production of reaſon, which this faculty by acting freely by the ſame or the like ways with thoſe it made uſe of in framing the diſciplines, that conſtitute philoſophy, and by the help of further notices, with which the new diſcoveries of natural things, that the happy induſtry of the moderns frequently ſupplies it with, may conſiderably both enlarge and correct the philoſophy hitherto received. But all the improvements of this kind being afforded but by natural and human helps, the intellect cannot by them be furniſhed with all the notices it is very capable of receiving, for there are a great many truths and notions of a higher order than natural, which God may (if he pleaſes) in a ſupernatural manner reveal to men, and a conſiderable number of ſuch, we Chriſtians believe he has actually revealed to us in thoſe books we call the holy ſcriptures. Theſe contain ſeveral myſteries and other truths, that human reaſon left to itſelf would never have attained to the knowledge of, eſpecially concerning the peculiar manner of God's exiſting, the nature of ſome of his attributes and decrees, and many things about unbodied ſpirits good and bad, and in a word the peculiar articles, that the Chriſtian theology has added to the natural.

THESE diſcoveries being ſo new, and ſeveral of them ſo noble, it will ſcarce be denied, but that an intellect, advantaged by the knowledge of them, muſt be *(cæteris paribus)* much better qualified to frame right conceptions, and make juſt eſtimates of ſeveral doctrines relating to philoſophy and divinity, than an intellect not furniſhed with theſe excellent helps. Let me add, gentlemen, that ſince theſe divine patefactions are made to a rational creature, that is endowed with faculties, not only apprehenſive, but diſcurſive, whereby he is able to infer one thing from another, an intellect informed by the ſcriptures may eaſily enough attain to many more notices, than are in thoſe books delivered in expreſs terms, thoſe, that are obtained by legitimate illations, being divine truths, as well as the texts themſelves, when they are clearly deduced. * * * *

Manlius.

Manlius. I KNOW, gentlemen, that it is not very difficult for ſubtil wits to deviſe nice and plauſible diſtinctions, fit to lay a fine varniſh over ſentiments, that are not ſound. But when you have ſaid all that can be ſaid, you muſt confeſs, that one truth cannot contradict another, ſince this is an axiom ſelf-evident, or at leaſt is one of the principal foundations of all our reaſonings; one of the moſt uſual and moſt effectual ways of proving a thing to be falſe, being this, to manifeſt that it is repugnant to ſomewhat, that is acknowledged to be true. Wherefore ſince it is notorious, that philoſophy teaches us many truths, to conclude, that whatever doctrine contradicts any of thoſe truths, though it be propoſed by a divine, and ſtiled a myſtery, is indeed an error, is to diſcourſe as conſonantly to right reaſon as to philoſophy.

Eleuther. IT may perhaps, gentlemen, clear the way for an anſwer to this ſpecious objection, if inſtead of employing the diſtinction of the word truth, or terms equivalent, which may be eaſily found in the writings of metaphyſicians, and which may be of good uſe on fit occaſions, I, that have no need of them at this time, venture to propoſe a couple of other diſtinctions, that I think more pertinent to my preſent purpoſe. Give me leave then to repreſent, that a truth, taking the term in a lax ſenſe, may be conſidered either as but gradual, or as compleat. By gradual truths, I mean ſuch propoſitions or doctrines, as even to a good reaſoner appear to be true, whilſt he is furniſhed but with ſuch a degree of light or information, though that be the higheſt he is able to procure: and by compleat truths I mean the judgments, that are duly formed upon a perfect information, or at leaſt ſuch a one, as is ſufficient to ground a right judgment upon. The former member of this diſtinction. * * * * *

THE latter member of our firſt diſtinction needs no examples to declare or prove it, and therefore I ſhall proceed to my ſecond diſtinction, which puts a difference between reſpective and probationary truths (ſtill taking that term in a lax ſenſe) and truths, that are abſolute or eternal; this diſtinction of truths may in ſome caſes be coincident with the former; but becauſe there are more caſes, wherein they are not coincident, it may be proper to ſpeak of it ſeparately.

By abſolute truths then (to begin with that member of our diſtinction, becauſe it may be diſpatched in few words) I underſtand in the firſt place thoſe theoretical principles and axioms, which are the foundations of our reaſonings, ſuch as are, two contradictories cannot both be true, every thing is, or is not, every line is either ſtrait or crooked, every number (whole and finite) is either even or odd. Two quantities, that are each of them equal to a third, are themſelves equal, and from truth nothing but truth can be legitimately deduced. And to this ſort of primary truths may be referred the definitions of our more ſimple mental ideas, ſuch as the clear conceptions we have of a triangle, a ſquare, a circle, a cube, a cylinder, *&c.* And becauſe there neither has, nor will be any time, wherein theſe principles of knowledge and ratiocinations may not be ſafely aſſented to, without any relation to contingent circumſtances, theſe ſelf-evident principles may be called eternal truths; whereas for thoſe of the ſecond member of our laſt diſtinction, though a man may rationally look upon them as truths, as long as he ſees juſt cauſe to believe them, or no ſufficient cauſe to queſtion them, yet he cannot ſafely judge them to be more than truths upon ſuppoſition, or to expreſs it ſhorter, conditional. *N. B.* I call them probationary truths, not only becauſe I am in part authoriſed by the example of our illuſtrious *Verulam*, who gives to ſeveral of his phyſiological rules or theorems the modeſt title of *Canones Mobiles*, but chiefly becauſe I am warranted by the nature of the thing. For there are many doctrines and aſſertions, that for a long time (amounting perhaps to many ages) were generally received by philoſophers themſelves for true, which yet, by the happy diſcoveries of latter times, appear to unprejudiced judges to be errors.

Manlius.

Manlius. I WILL not now, *Eleutherius*, dispute the instances you have alledged, but I expect to hear, how you will apply your distinctions to the objection they should enable you to answer.

Eleuth. I SHALL immediately endeavour to satisfy your expectation, *Manlius*, by representing to you, that since several dogms and assertions may be received for truths, by a person that reasons well, according to the best information he is able to obtain from mere philosophy, and yet may, by so doing, assent to that, which, absolutely speaking, is an error in the judgment of right reason, that is, of reason fully or competently informed; and since also what I have now asserted holds true as to many things, that are judged to be within the sphere and jurisdiction of mere philosophy; it seems very rational to think, that divers theological dogms may be rejected, and perhaps too oppugned, by a man, that judges as a mere philosopher; which yet may be assented to by a Christian, without at all acting unconformably to right reason. For nothing can be more rational, than to believe that to be true, which is taught by God, who can neither be himself deceived, nor deceive us.

Euseb. You will, I hope, *Eleutherius*, permit me to add, that since many doctrines are expressly delivered in the sacred books, which human philosophy could never have taught us, I think you may, at least as to these truths, turn the latter part of *Manlius*'s objection upon himself; for if one truth cannot be contradictory to another, we have more reason to believe those theological truths, that are delivered in the holy scriptures, and consequently recommended by divine authority, than the philosophical dogms, that thwart them; since as it is oftentimes more easy to understand the words of God clearly set down in the inspired books, than the voice of nature, which her interpreters do frequently mistake themselves, and not seldom deliver, but darkly, or unsincerely unto us: so when philosophy and the scripture seem to disagree, it is always the safest course to believe what is taught by God, whose exact veracity is included in his most perfect nature, who possesses an intellect, not only of a superior order to ours, but truly omniscient, and who does most clearly know, not only all gradual verities, and all those, that are but conditional truths, or grounded upon suppositions, but all the complete, absolute and eternal truths, that our philosophy and reasonings are built on: and most probably, many more, neither attained, nor so much as attainable, by natural reason; though never so well improved by merely human philosophy.

Eleuth. THE mention, which *Eusebius* has made of the differing orders of intellects, and the immense superiority of God's understanding above man's, seems to me very pertinent to our disquisition, since the divine intellect being omniscient, can at once look through the whole aggregate of things knowable, and have a perfect prospect of all truths, both singly, and in their connexion, dependency, and (in a word) their entire system: upon which account it is reasonable to suppose, that some things may be irreconcilable in our understandings, that are not so in God's.

FOR I have more than once observed, that as there are some contradictions, that appear plainly to be such, by a clear and direct view of the rational faculty, so there are others (though not so many) whose contrariety, though it be thought manifest of itself, yet really, as it stands in our judgment, is a work or effect of the rational faculty; not as it is barely apprehensive, but as it is discussive. For sometimes in framing a judgment, that certain things are contradictory, we make a supposition, or an inference, or perhaps both, though because we are wont to pass judgments in the like cases very easily, and without hesitancy, we are not usually aware, that we do so, but presume, that our judgment is grounded only upon a clear view of a manifest repugnancy between the things collated. Now it is very possible, that the supposition or the illation, that we make use of in judging two things to be contradictory, may be erroneous,

roneous, and that an intellect, that has far more light and penetration than ours, may discern that weakness in the grounds of our judgment, that we did not suspect. And this I am the more persuaded of, because, even in affairs merely physical, many things are judged to be contrary to the true laws or dictates of right reason; because men do either presume something to be manifestly true, that is not so, or do not know, or perhaps so much as suspect, the differing ways, by which a thing may be produced, or brought to pass, or may have a right to the title of true. * * *

Manlius. I HOPE, gentlemen, that notwithstanding all you have said in derogation of philosophy, you do not mean to reject its authority universally; as if in no cases it may be employed as a norma, or rule, according to which we may safely judge of divine things. For unless you grant some fundamental and eternal truths, I see not how it is possible for us to confute divers theological errors of Pagans and other infidels, whose rejection of the authority of the scriptures does not allow us, without indiscretion, to impugn them with arguments from thence. To which I may add——

Eleuth. —— I PRESUME, *Manlius*, that you will not think your additions necessary, when I shall have acquainted you with my thoughts, which I doubt not are agreeable to these gentlemen's too, about the matter under consideration. I conceive, then, that there are two kinds or orders of principles and dictates of reason; the one comprises those primary and universal notices and axioms, that are applicable to all kinds of subjects; such as are the first metaphysical and mathematical verities, as that "contradictories cannot both be true, *non entis nulla sunt accidentia*; the whole is "greater than a part of it; if to equal quantities equal quantities be added, the totals also "will be equal; every line is strait or crooked; from truth nothing but truth can be "legitimately inferred." These and the like self-evident principles hold on all occasions; and therefore may be distinguished from other rules or dictates of philosophy, which, though they will hold in most cases, do not hold in all cases, and are, on that account, subordinate, or at least of an inferior nature, to the primary and catholic principles lately mentioned.

Now to apply this to our present purpose, if the philosophical dogm, that seems repugnant to the holy scriptures, be grounded upon a truth, that is but of an inferior order, I shall, to avoid repetition, refer the consideration of this case to those passages of this present conference, that may be pertinently applied to it: especially if the philosophical tenet concern a subject, which natural reason ought to discern herself to be an incompetent judge of, at least, as she is at present informed.

Manlius. BUT what if a text of scripture be repugnant to a dogm in philosophy, that is grounded upon one of those metaphysical or mathematical axioms, that you mention, as verities of the highest order? Must you not, in that case, confess, both that philosophy and theology may contradict each other; and that, without bidding defiance to reason, we cannot forbear to embrace that philosophical dogm, that is built upon the first and highest principles of reason?

Eleuth. IN answer to this weighty objection, I must advertise you, that I look upon the metaphysical and mathematical principles, we have been speaking of, to be truths of a transcendent kind, that do not properly, and exclusively to the other, belong either to philosophy or theology; but are universal foundations and instruments of all the knowledge we mortals can acquire.

THAT part of the metaphysics, that treats of universal and immutable truths, is far superior to, and ought to be distinguished from, that which applies those catholic rules and primary notions to particular, or at least to determinate subjects. The first sort of truths are not to be denied or rejected, upon the account of an alledged revelation,

revelation, because they are the principles, upon which, or with congruity to them, our assent to that revelation itself, if it be a true one, must be grounded; and therefore the texts, supposed to contain that revelation, must be so interpreted, as not to contradict those principles. For God, being infinitely knowing, and being the author of our reason, cannot be supposed to oblige us to believe contradictions: and since truth cannot be repugnant to truth, we can easily be much more sure, that such a metaphysical principle is true, than that a sense contrary to it can be the true meaning of the divine author: as men of every sect acknowledge, in effect, by the answers and expositions they are fain to adjust to divers passages, where things are delivered in popular expressions, and not suitable to exact truths in astronomy, geography, *&c.*

IN answer to the fourth objection it was said,

1. THAT a proposition may be contrary to this or that particular philosophy, as the *Epicurean*, *Peripatetic*, *&c.* without being contrary to philosophy in general.

2. THAT a proposition may be contrary to all the several sects of philosophers now in repute, without being contrary to true philosophy.

3. THAT it is one thing to contradict the articles or sentiments of this or that church, and (*à fortiori*) of this or that school, or particular divine; and another thing, to contradict an article of faith, really delivered in the scripture.

4. THERE are divers occasions, on which theology and philosophy seem to contradict each other, only because men do not sufficiently know, or else do overlook the requisites of a true contradiction.

5. THAT a theorem or dictate of philosophy cannot be safely relied on, if either it be not clearly understood, or if it be applied to things, for which it was not made, or is not proper.

6. THAT a thing may be contrary to philosophy, as founded merely in the light of nature, without being contrary to right reason, taken in its full extent.

7. THAT the foregoing truths being admitted, there is not any thing in the Christian religion, that does really contradict any principle of right reason; if the principle be sound, and the article rightly proposed, and duly grounded on scripture, well interpreted.

OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS.

IT is a sad, as well as a shameful thing, to consider, that the intellect of man, which should be so capacious and so unbiassed a faculty, is so far from being so in effect, that most men have a local motion (if I may so speak) and a great many have a sectarian reason, and others a mercenary one. Thus usually, such as are born in such a place, espouse the opinions, true or false, that obtain there; as those, that are born in *Arabia*, are generally *Mahometans*; and those that are born in *Spain*, are generally (and many of them perhaps upon not much better grounds) Christians and catholics. And so the Jesuits dispersed all the world over usually maintain some opinions about the helps of grace, and the *Dominicans* quite opposite ones. In *Italy* the pope's infallibility and power over kings are generally maintained, which are heterodox tenets in *France*, especially at the *Sorbonne*. And the absolute authority of princes is defended in some monarchies, as generally by mercenary pens, or other unbiassed writers, as it is opposed in divers other countries by persons, some of whom, it is to be feared, are swayed by the same motives of interest or hope, to maintain sentiments quite opposite to those.

IF

IF revealed theology obliges us to believe things incomprehensible, or above reason, natural theology does the like.

INFINITY can be but figuratively affirmed of God's perfections; but yet they may well be called infinite, because they are boundless, which is all the infinity they are capable of: and God being the first cause, hath not only perfections absolutely so called, that exclude a greater or an equal perfection, but possess also all the possible degrees, as well as kinds, of true perfection, *&c.*

WE men cannot conceive or explain, either by example, or any thing truly analogical, how God can create either matter or a human soul, *&c.*

WE know so few properties and analogies of *infinitum*, that, when we apply to it the rules or measures, that were made to finite things, we are subject to make very defective reasonings, and leave the question obscure, because the object is so; and the clear data we have are insufficient to enlighten it.

I DO not think myself obliged to have the same regard and respect for the explications, that the schoolmen and many other divines give us of the mysteries of Christianity, that I have for the articles themselves; since for the mysteries I have the divine authority of the revealer, who can oblige my faith to assent even to dark truths; but for the expositions and consequences, I have but human authority: and though clearness is not always necessary to divine mysteries, yet it may be justly exacted in a good explication, since to explicate a thing, is to render it at least intelligible.

SOMETIMES reason signifies the superior faculty of the mind, furnished with its own original notions and axioms, and with vulgar or popular notices; and sometimes it is used to signify a kind of organical thing; and is considered not as a faculty acting immediately upon her own stock of congenite truths, and of vulgar notices, but as she manages a frame or system of ideas and propositions, wherewith she is furnished by sciences and arts; which, though as it were tools or instruments of her own framing, yet are such, as being once made, her operations are regulated by them; as when the eye and the hand make rulers, compasses, and telescopes; but are afterwards in their operations guided, as well as assisted by these instruments; and such instruments I take the liberal disciplines (under which name, for brevity sake, I comprise both arts and sciences) to be in reference to the mind; and the intellect and rational faculty, informed by these disciplines, and judging according to their informations, I think we may call philosophical (or merely natural) reason. Besides these two acceptions of the word reason, there may be also a third; in which, as in the last named, she is considered as acting organically, but yet with a more noble and comprehensive organ or instrument. For the reason of man, besides the utmost information, she is able to give herself by the mere light of nature, is capable of receiving a higher and more excellent information, by supernatural discoveries or revelations.

THOUGH reason essentially considered is the same in speculations of all kinds, yet organically considered, or as acting in and by such notions and other instruments, she is a more limited and a less catholic agent, in reference to some kinds of objects; and must make use of other notions and instruments, when she is conversant about them: as she must have one set of notions for infinite, and another for finite things, and also one for things stable or permanent, and another for things of a successive nature, as times, streams, flame, *&c.*

RIGHT reason may be looked upon as a catholic principle, of which philosophy is but an application, and the dictates of particular philosophies, such as the *Peripatetic*, the *Platonic*, the *Epicurean*, *&c.* are but particular corollaries, which are not always truly drawn, and on that account may always be questioned or examined,

and may, I fear, oftentimes be juſtly rejected; and this holds, eſpecially, when, in the examen, he that makes it is aſſiſted by the diſcoveries made by revelation, from whoſe heavenly light, in reference to divers ſubjects, the intellect may receive ſuch a benefit, as the air does in a clear day from the beams of the ſun, by which it is both enlightened and expanded.

IT is one thing to contradict a catholic or metaphyſical principle, or dictate of reaſon, and another to contradict a phyſical one; ſince the laws of nature, as they were at firſt arbitrarily inſtituted by God, ſo, in reference to him, they are but arbitrary ſtill.

THEOLOGY, or revealed religion, never obliges us to forſake (much leſs renounce) the dictates of reaſon, conſidered in its full extent, as it is a comprehenſion of true notions or propoſitions, both univerſal and particular. For the primary and moſt catholic laws or rules of reaſon are never to be forſaken, upon any occaſion; ſince their truth is ſuppoſed in the beſt arguments, that can be brought for revelation itſelf: and no particular truth can be made out, which, if peruſed home, cannot be at laſt reſolved into, or reduced to, one of thoſe primary and general truths. And therefore if any other dogma be propoſed as a truth (as for inſtance, ſome [that is propoſed as a] revealed article of the Chriſtian religion) if the article be clearly evinced to be divinely revealed, to embrace [aſſent to] it, is not to act againſt reaſon. For this will teach us to interpret the words, that expreſs the revelation, ſo as not to contradict any primary and catholic rule of reaſon. And if the article be contrary but to ſome ſubordinate dictate of reaſon, or to ſome gradual truth, then alſo we may embrace it without forſaking right reaſon. For her own catholic dictates determine, both that there are ſome things above our comprehenſion revealable by God; and that a propoſition inferred from a ſubordinate [or inferior] rule, or dictate, may be judged falſe, when another medium of probation, as experience or divine teſtimony, that is of a ſtronger, or of a higher order, ſhall manifeſt the contrary [to be true.]

REASON has two uſes, upon which two differing ſignifications of it have been founded. And theſe ought to be carefully diſtinguiſhed, becauſe the promiſcuous uſe of them has bred confuſion in the actions and reaſonings of many. For ſometimes it is to be conſidered as a norma, a rule, or a ſtandard, whereto we apply ratiocinations, &c. to judge of their validity or erroneouſneſs. And ſometimes it is conſidered alſo as a principle, by which notions and axioms, and even the norma above ſpoken of, may be framed, on which account it is ſometimes looked on as the rational faculty itſelf, that may act antecedently to what we call a norma.

THE proper duty and office of reaſon is not to teach us ſupernatural things; but firſt to lead us to a ſupernatural teacher, that is, to God; and next to defend the things he teaches againſt the unjuſt imputation of being contradictious or impoſſible: and this latter office of reaſon would not be neceſſary (ſince the teacher is ſuppoſed infallible) but becauſe it is ſo, to maintain, that we do not miſapprehend the meaning of what we receive as taught by him, which muſt be a miſtake of ours, if he, that cannot miſtake or deceive, is ſaid to have taught what is impoſſible to be true.

REASON herſelf commands us to believe ſenſe in divers caſes, againſt what would otherwiſe be rational, &c.

THOSE, that think their own reaſon, becauſe it can raiſe them a little above other men, can enable them to ſoar into heaven, and without the aſſiſtance of revelation diſcover the ſublimeſt truths of religion, fall as much ſhort of their deſign, as flying fiſhes do, whoſe wings (or broad fins) do indeed enable them to riſe above other fiſhes,

fiſhes, and fly a while in the air, but are able to carry them to no great height, nor keep them long from deſcending again.

BOTH philoſophical and revealed truths proceed equally (though not ſo directly the one as the other) from the ſame Father of lights; as we receive from the ſun, not only thoſe immediate beams, that come in ſtrait lines to us in a clear day, but that light of his, which is reflected to the earth in a moon-ſhine night.

TRUE philoſophy being but reaſon improved by meditation, conferences, obſervations, and experiments, and the arts and diſciplines produced by them; thoſe things, that may be ſaid of the conſiſtency of reaſon with theology, and its uſefulneſs to it, may juſtly be applied to the friendly agreement of true philoſophy and divinity, and to the utilities of the former to the latter.

PHILOSOPHY does for the moſt part but more clearly diſplay and expoſe the object; but divine revelation aſſiſted by divine grace may ſerve both for a light, a teleſcope, and a collyrium; ſince it both illuſtrates the object, and furniſhes the beholder with an excellent inſtrument of diſcovery, and clears the eye or viſive faculty from thoſe diſtempers, that render it unfit to exerciſe the beſt and difficulteſt acts of viſion.

DIVINE revelation, when it is made known, being part of the rule of right reaſon, cannot be contrary to it.

REASON might ſeem to be an unkind gift of heaven, in caſe inquiſitiveneſs into matters of religion, if it be exerciſed with ſincerity, diligence, and humility, were either ſo criminal or ſo dangerous, as many think it; and if it were forbidden to exerciſe itſelf upon the nobleſt and moſt important objects it can contemplate.

THOUGH no truth can really contradict another truth, yet that, which is but a gradual truth, may not by us be reconcilable to a ſuperior and abſolute truth. And in that caſe we need not deſtroy a dictate of reaſon, but only give it a limitation, and reſtrain it to thoſe ſorts of things on which it was at firſt grounded, and to which it was, becauſe of men's ignorance or inconſiderateneſs, that it was not confined.

THEY will often miſs of truth, that ſeek for it with other aims than thoſe of finding and uſing it.

As a good fruit tree being grafted upon a crab or thorn, the wild plant is enabled to bear a fruit much nobler than that, which is properly its own; and on the other ſide the graft proſpers better, than if it grew immediately out of the ground: ſo when theology is as it were grafted upon human learning, it both proſpers better itſelf, and makes the ſtock bear better than its own natural fruits.

Advertiſement of the author's concerning ſome Papers belonging to the ſecond Part of the Chriſtian Virtuoſo, (*which will in ſome meaſure account for the defects and diſorder of the following diſcourſe,*) probably ſent to his friend *H. O.* Eſq;

ACCORDING to the menace I made you, without being at all diſcouraged by you to execute it, I ſend you a collection of fragments to put in order, which your dexterity and kindneſs will, I know, make as good as the particulars, which are not capable of an exact method, can bear. Perhaps it may ſomewhat apologize for their being ſo confuſed, and alſo afford you ſome aſſiſtance, though but a ſmall one, to range and diſpoſe theſe ſhuffled papers, if I acquaint you with what it was, that occaſioned the diſorder you find theſe fragments in.

* * * * To ſhun which inconvenience, I committed moſt of my thoughts to looſe leaves or leſſer portions of paper, ſometimes according as they came into my mind, and often as I preſumed I might have more or leſs time to commit things to writing. Even in theſe papers I was ſometimes, by the ſudden forerunners, or actual coming in of company, obliged either to break off abruptly before I had finiſhed what I had to ſay, or to cloſe it very haſtily, and give the laſt part of it a more contracted form, than it ought to have had; that I might timely enough diſpatch it: and in theſe looſe ſnips of paper not having often, much leſs always, when I was writing one, the others already written, to caſt my eye upon, I could not give them the form of parts or portions of a coherent diſcourſe, but was fain to ſet each of them down as a ſeparate ſentence, or a compariſon, or an argument independent from the reſt, only caſting them into little bundles, as I thought them the moſt referable to this, or that part of the main ſubject. * * *

THESE things may give you ſome account, how theſe papers come to you ſo diſordered, and why I rather wiſh than expect, that you ſhould give yourſelf the trouble, by tranſpoſitions of ſome, and retrenchments in others, to link them into a coherent diſcourſe; but yet I hope ſo dextrous a perſon as you, will be pleaſed to lay them in that order, that you ſhall think the moſt natural, and the leaſt remote from that they ſhould have been writ in; ſelecting out of the other papers what you think may be not unuſefully added in the margin to illuſtrate or corroborate the paſſage it is affixed to; and if among the adventitious papers, whoſe pertinency, I newly told you, I had not time to conſider, you find any long ones worth referring, they may, if you think fit, be annexed at the end by way of annotations, on this or that paſſage of the foregoing collection.

THE

THE CHRISTIAN VIRTUOSO.

The SECOND PART.

I HOPE the paſt diſcourſe has perſuaded you, that a man addicted to experience, may by being ſo, have ſome peculiar advantages to be convinced of the truth of the Chriſtian religion. Wherefore it now remains to be manifeſted, that the ſame perſon may have alſo great diſpoſitions to embrace the practice of it. * *

And, for my part, when I am employed about the duties and functions of a Chriſtian, methinks I do not much recede from my old practice; and that I am ſtill but *trying an experiment*, namely this; *Whether by conſtantly endeavouring to lead a Chriſtian Life, and perform the condition of the goſpel, a man may obtain peace of conſcience and contentment of mind in this life, and endleſs felicity in the next.* * *

As I preſume you do not expect, that I ſhould particularly treat of all the ſeveral things, that may be pertinent to my preſent ſubject, I ſhall confine my diſcourſe to thoſe main things, that may be conveniently referred to the ſix following heads, or propoſitions.

The ſix heads or propoſitions, *viz.*

I. That an experimental knowledge of God's wiſdom, and other attributes, diſcoverable in his viſible works, is a great help to rational piety and devotion.

II. For a man's own experience may diſcover unto him the excellency, ſatisfactorineſs, and the advantageouſneſs of thoſe graces and virtues, that are recommended by Chriſtianity.

III. That perſonal experience may convince a man of the evils of differing kinds, that attend a vicious courſe of life, and even particular ſins, and of the reſiſtibleneſs of temptations to them.

IV. That the ſame kind of experience may aſſure him of the practical poſſibility of performing the duties and functions of a Chriſtian, by the help of thoſe aſſiſtances, that God gives the faithful implorers, to enable them to obey and pleaſe him.

V. That both a man's own, and other mens experience, may oblige his aſſent to the truth of what the ſcripture teacheth of the good and bad eſtate of the pious and the wicked.

VI. That heedful obſervations may ſatisfy a man of the vanity of the world, and the tranſitorineſs of external, and eſpecially ſinful engagements, and of the emptineſs of thoſe things, for which men refuſe the ways of piety and virtue.

In the firſt propoſition are two ſections, the firſt ſection conſiſts of four parts, and ſhews the uſe, that the Chriſtian Virtuoſo may make of the contemplation of the *Macrocoſm*, and eſpecially of the later diſcoveries made in the *cæleſtial* part of it. Sect. I.

As 1. The order, ſubſtance, magnitudes, diſtances and motions of the ſtars, particularly the planets, primary and ſecondary; and among them the earth and Sub-ſect. (1.)

the

the ſea, by no means forgetting the commodious ſituation and motions of the ſun.

Sub-ſect. (2.) 2. Thoſe bodies, that are called *elementary*, which together with the cœleſtial are
Sub-ſect. (3.) commonly thought to make up the ſyſtem of the world. 3. Inanimate minerals, ſuch as metals, gems, and the loadſtone, to which third head belong glaſs and other
Sub-ſect. (4.) artificial bodies. 4. *Bodies*, that are called *living* ones, ſuch as plants and brutes; whether quadrupeds, birds, fiſhes, inſects or reptiles, and bodies, which partake of both natures, ſuch as zoophytes, lythodendrons.

II. THE ſecond ſection ſhews the religious uſe a Chriſtian *Virtuoſo* may make of
Sub-ſect. (1.) the contemplation of the *Microcoſm*, which conſiſts of four parts. The 1ſt relates to
Sub-ſect. (2.) the anatomy of a dead human body, and the mechaniſm of a living one. The 2d relates to the human mind or rational ſoul, and the faculties and powers it has within
Sub-ſect. (3.) itſelf, as belonging to its own diſtinct nature. And the 3d relates to a man, as he is a being integrated by a human mind and living body, ſtrictly aſſociated by certain laws of union or conſociation, eſtabliſhed by God in this monadical creature. To
Sub-ſect. (4.) which ſub-ſections there are joined fourthly ſome applicatory reflections on the whole.

The firſt PROPOSITION.

That *an experimental knowledge of God's wiſdom and other attributes diſcoverable in his viſible works, is a great help to rational piety and devotion.*

NATURAL religion, as it is the firſt, that is embraced by the mind, ſo it is the foundation, upon which revealed religion ought to be ſuperſtructed, and is as it were the ſtock, upon which Chriſtianity muſt be ingrafted. For though I readily acknowledge natural religion to be *inſufficient*, yet I think it very *neceſſary*. It will be to little purpoſe to preſs an infidel with arguments drawn from the worthineſs, that appears in the Chriſtian doctrine to have been revealed by God, and from the miracles its firſt preachers wrought to confirm it; if the unbeliever be not already perſuaded, upon the account of natural religion, that *there is a God*; that *he is a rewarder of them that diligently ſeek him*; and that he has ſome attributes, as juſtice, mercy, wiſdom, *&c.* to which the Chriſtian doctrine is very congruous; and to which (attributes) it were highly incongruous, that he ſhould ſet his ſeal of miraculous power, to authoriſe a doctrine falſly pretending to be promulgated to mankind by his command.

BUT that natural religion is highly ſerviceable, if not alſo neceſſary, to that of Chriſtians, I have endeavoured to manifeſt partly in the forgoing part of this paper, and more ſolemnly in another diſcourſe. And therefore remitting you to that for further proof, in caſe you think it needful, I ſhall proceed to obſerve, that the chief argument, which engaged the heathen philoſophers, and other men of parts, to exerciſe the nobler acts of natural religion, by *admiring*, *thanking*, and *praiſing* the Deity, ſuggeſted to them by the knowledge and conſideration of the macrocoſm and microcoſm, that is, (to uſe a more familiar and yet equivalent expreſſion) the univerſe and man. And to the attainment of this knowledge, and to the making of the reflections, that naturally accompany it, the experimental philoſopher has divers conſiderable advantages (and diſpoſitions:) becauſe his way of converſing with the works of nature does both oblige and accuſtom him to conſider them very heedfully; *to* view them round about; *to* take many of them to pieces; *to* look upon them in their ſeveral capacities (if I may ſo ſpeak;) and in ſhort, *to* inveſtigate their properties

properties by the help of all those sciences and arts, that may help us to discover them.

GOD having made the world with intention, not only to *communicate*, but to *express* his goodness, and display some other of his attributes, as his divine power and wisdom; he hath been pleased so to frame this great machine of the world, that in *some* parts of it, the impresses of those divine perfections are *so manifest*, if not *conspicuous*, that to use a scriptural phrase, he that *runs may read them*; and a slight attention and superficial consideration may suffice to make them be taken notice of. But there are other things in the fabrick of an engine, as exquisite as it is vast, (such as the world, and the creatures that make it up) the symmetry of whose parts, and the curiousness of whose structures, cannot be discerned, but by a very attentive and intelligent contemplator, furnished with considerable skill in mathematicks, physicks, anatomy, opticks, and divers other disciplines. And though even these will not enable a man to discover *all* the curiosity, that God hath employed in the contrivance of his admirable works; yet still he, that considers them with the most fixed and piercing eyes, will discover *more and more* of that exquisiteness, in proportion to the measure of his attention and philosophical knowledge; as when men sail in the midst of the ocean, though none of them are so quick sighted, as to be able to see any shore, or look into the bottom of the sea; yet some men will see farther and deeper than others, according as they look more earnestly, and have better eyes.

THERE are divers accounts, wherein the curiosity of a Christian Virtuoso may be made serviceable to his piety. But in compliance with my intended brevity, I shall pitch but upon one of them, which is the study, that as an experimental philosopher, he concerns himself to make of the macrocosm and microcosm; as I, to comply with new received forms of speech, shall often stile the world and man. About each of which objects of his contemplation, I shall, though but very briefly, set down some observations in a peculiar section.

SECTION I.

SHEWING the use the Christian Virtuoso may make of the macrocosm, consists of four parts or sub-sections.

(1.) OF the order, substance, magnitudes, distances and motions of the stars, particularly the planets, primary and secondary, and among them the earth and the sea, not forgetting the commodious situation and motions of the sun.

(2.) OF those bodies, that are called elementary; which, together with the cœlestial, are commonly thought to make up the system of the world.

(3.) OF inanimate minerals, such as metals, gems, and the loadstone; to which third head belong glass and other artificial bodies.

(4.) OF bodies called *living* ones, such as plants and brutes, whether quadrupeds, birds, fishes, insects or reptiles, and bodies, which partake of both natures, as *Zoophytes*, *Lythodendrons*.

THE discoveries of the modern *Virtuosi* do not only represent the æthereal part of the world considered in itself, as a body incomparably more vast than it was wont to be thought, but they likewise manifest, that the cœlestial lights, that adorn it, are very much more numerous, than former philosophers and astronomers took them to be. For, according to the vulgar computation, there are seven planets, reckoning the *Sun* (who yet seems to be rather a fixed star) for one, and a thousand twenty odd

odd firmamentary ſtars. But *Galilæo* detected four new planets, that move in diſtinct orbs about *Jupiter*; and ſince him divers others (for the preciſe number is not fully agreed on) have been added, belonging to *Saturn*. And as for the fixed ſtars, our glaſſes have diſcovered multitudes of them unobſerved by the ancients; the *Pleiades*, for inſtance, that formerly were ſuppoſed to contain ſeven ſtars, (though now many obſervers affirm they can ſee but ſix) have been diſcovered to be a conſtellation, whereto a ſurpriſing number of formerly inconſpicuous ſtars may be referred. The *galaxy* or *milky way*, which vulgar philoſophers would have to be but a meteor, is by our better tubes diſcovered to be a diffuſed aggregate of ſingly undiſcernible ſtars, whoſe number is ſcarce credible. And I little doubt, but that, if our glaſſes ſhould be further improved, there will be ſtill more and more numerous ſtars detected, to increaſe the number of thoſe, that are ſo already; which I am the rather induced to think, becauſe, having for a time been furniſhed with a teleſcope, which perhaps not two in *Europe* exceeded, and taking great pleaſure, in a ſerene and dark night, to look upon the *belt* or *girdle of Orion*, and ſome of thoſe whitiſh plaſhes of the ſky, that are called *Nubiloſæ*, I could ſcarce turn my tube to any part, where I did not make a ſurpriſing diſcovery of I know not how many little ſtars I had not ſeen before; and thoſe too had ſuch an appearance, as invited me to think, that I might have ſeen a great many more, if the teleſcope (which was ſoon after ſtolen from me) had been as perect a one, as I had then hopes to procure.

THE ideas, that the modern virtuoſi are partly by their teleſcopes, and partly by their *hypotheſes*, aſſiſted to frame of the magnitude of the cœleſtial part of the world, repreſent it very much more vaſt, than vulgar philoſophers and aſtronomers have thought it to be. For *though* later artiſts, that have employed better inſtruments, and made more accurate obſervations, teach, both that the terreſtrial globe is more in compaſs by ſome thouſands of miles, than it has hitherto been computed to be; and yet that the ſun is many more times than one hundred ſixty ſix times (which is the received eſtimate of his bigneſs) greater than the earth; inſomuch that that juſtly famous and accurate obſerver Signior *Caſſini* extends its magnitude ſo far, as to make it exceed ſome thouſands of times that of the terreſtrial globe, from which, though the ſun be eſteemed at a moderate diſtance, to be removed 1165 ſemi-diameters of the earth, each of which the learned aſtronomer *Gaſſendus* computes to be 4177 miles, ſo that the whole diſtance amounts to 4866205: *yet*, according to the *Copernican* hypotheſis, embraced by the greateſt part by far of the modern virtuoſi, *as* other aſtronomers are content to teach, that the globe of the earth is but as it were a phyſical point in reſpect of the firmament, *ſo* the *Copernicans* aſſert, that the great orb itſelf (as they call that, wherein the earth annually moves about the ſun) to be no more but a phyſical point in regard of the firmament; ſince the fixed ſtars appear of the ſame magnitude, even to mathematical obſervers, whether they be looked upon, when the earth is betwixt the ſun and them, or when the earth is in an oppoſite ſituation, and has the ſun between them and it. But without laying the whole ſtreſs of our argument upon *hypotheſis*, it is plain, that by good teleſcopes, we may diſcover in the eighth heaven many hundreds of fixed ſtars, that the ancients never ſaw there, nor are to be found on the vulgar cœleſtial globes. And for ought we know, the ſmallneſs, that many of theſe ſtars appear to have, may proceed but from their being at a greater diſtance from us, than thoſe commonly taken notice of. For to ſay with vulgar philoſophers, that all the fixed ſtars are in the ſame ſphere, and equally removed from the earth, being like nails faſtened in a piece of wood, is precarious, and to them that are convinced, by the motions of cœleſtial comets and other proofs, of the fluidity of the upper part of the univerſe, improbable. And indeed if we conſider,

conſider, that, as I among others, have more than once had occaſion to obſerve, as our teleſcopes come to be more and more improved, ſo we diſcover more and more ſtars in what we call the firmament; it will be difficult for us men to know, to what extent the vaſtneſs of the univerſe may not reach: which conſideration may naturally enough *both* give a *Virtuoſo* far more large ideas or conceptions than men commonly have of his greatneſs, who is able to make a fabrick, that is ſo ſtupendouſly vaſt; *and* oblige him to give full aſſent to that of the Pſalmiſt, *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praiſed, and his greatneſs is unſearchable* *. * Pſalm cxlv. 3.

THE wiſdom of God in the ſyſtem of the heavens, and their various and yet regular motions, is ſo conſpicuous, that in almoſt all ages and nations, the conſideration of the cœleſtial bodies has led the contemplators of them to aſcribe them to a divine author or moderator. And indeed, as the miraculous ſtar led the eaſtern ſages to the ſon of God, ſo the natural ſtars of heaven were the chief lights and guides, that led the heathen philoſophers to the acknowledgment and worſhip of God. About which there is an excellent teſtimony of *Ariſtotle* preſerved us, if I miſtake not, by *Cicero*. Wherefore ſince divers even of the heathen philoſophers made it unneceſſary for me to enlarge upon this ſubject, I ſhall content myſelf to offer you a couple of ſhort remarks or advertiſements about it.

THE firſt of theſe ſhall be this; that you need not be kept from acknowledging the wiſdom of God, in the frame and conduct of the cœleſtial bodies, by the differing *Hypotheſes* of aſtronomers about their order and motions. For it is not upon the truth of this or that particular explication of the cœleſtial *Phænomena*, but upon the conſideration of the *Phænomena* themſelves, that the perſuaſion we have of the divine wiſdom is grounded, or at leaſt needs to be ſo. For, *whether* you ſuppoſe, with the *Pythagoreans* and divers ancients (mentioned by *Ariſtotle* and others) whoſe opinion has in later times been revived by *Copernicus*, that the ſun is in the middle of our world, and the earth as well as other planets move about it; *or* that, with *Ptolemy* and the generality of aſtronomers, who would have the earth to remain unmoved, and all the planets and fixed ſtars to perform their courſes about it, as the phyſical centre of their motions; or *whether* you will with *Tycho* and his followers, prefer an *Hypotheſis* differing from each of the others, and yet partaking of both: which ſoever, I ſay of theſe and the like theories is the beſt, yet all agree in this, that the motions of the heavenly lights are divers of them ſcarce conceivably ſwift, and, notwithſtanding their variety, have an admirable regularity, which has laſted, for ought appears, as long as the world, and is like to perſevere to the end of it; which made *Ariſtotle*, who was ſeldom too forward to have recourſe to divine beings, think it neceſſary to aſcribe ſo great a regularity and harmonioufneſs in the incredibly ſwift motions of ſuch vaſt bodies, to the agency and conduct of diſtinct intelligences, preſiding over the diſtinct cœleſtial ſpheres; wherein he did not much deviate from divers other heathen philoſophers, who were therein followed by whole ſects, and ſome of them by nations, that, as I have elſewhere ſhown, thought each planet to harbour, and be guided by, not only a rational, but a divine being. So that, as I was formerly ſaying, it is not upon a diſputable *Hypotheſis*, but on an attentive inſpection, that our *Virtuoſo* may ground his veneration of the divine wiſdom expreſſed in the diſpoſition and conduct of the cœleſtial bodies: which aſſertion may be in ſome meaſure illuſtrated by this compariſon. Suppoſe a man of parts heedfully looks upon a curious clock, and views how regularly and conſtantly the *Index* moves upon the dial-plate, how orderly and how diſtinctly the hours are ſtruck, how the alarum-bell rouſes mens attention at determinate times, and the chimes do at other times delight his ear by their harmonious ſtrokes; though this man, I ſay, cannot certainly decide

a controverſy, that may ariſe from clock-makers; whereof one may affirm, that the machine is moved barely by *weights*; another may derive its motions from thoſe of a *pendulum*; and a third may diſſent from both thoſe, and ſubſtitute to weights a *ſpring*: but which of theſe hypotheſes ſoever be pitched upon, it will ſtill be true, that the clock was not made by chance, but by a ſkilful and deſigning artificer; this being not founded upon the truth of this or that *Hypotheſis*, about the latent ſtructure of the engine, but upon the inſpection of the curious and regular *Phænomena* themſelves, that it manifeſtly exhibits. And ſo, notwithſtanding that *Galen* and other ancients did in many things differ from the moderns, about the ſtructure and uſes of the parts of the human body; yet neither this difference, nor the diſputes, that ſtill continue about the circulation of the blood, (at leaſt as to divers circumſtances and conſequences of it,) the motions and uſe of the *Lympha*, the cauſe and manner of digeſtion in the ſtomach, and the nutrition of ſome parts by the nerves, and the like controverted points, are of moment enough to keep ſkilful conſiderers, either from acknowledging, or ſo much as from admiring, the wiſdom of the divine opificer, that ſhines in the manifeſt and undiſputed contrivance and œconomy of a human body, alive and dead.

To the foregoing remark I ſhall add this that follows. *Though*, as has been newly ſaid, there is not any of the mentioned *Hypotheſes*, that ought to hinder its embracers from diſcerning the marks of an excellent wiſdom, in the ſyſtem and motions of the heavenly bodies; *yet* one of theſe theories may make it out much better than another does: and on that account, our *Virtuoſo* may have a clearer and more affecting view of the divine wiſdom, that is expreſſed in the cœleſtial part of the univerſe, and eſpecially in the ſituations and motions of the lights that adorn it, than the erroneous, or very imperfect theories of the vulgar philoſophy, or the *Ptolemaic* aſtronomy, are capable of affording him. I could alledge, as a ſtrong preſumption in favour of this opinion, that the indefatigable induſtry of the modern *Virtuoſi*, and the noble diſcoveries they have made by the happy invention of the teleſcope, having given them a much fuller information of the number and *Phænomena* of the fixed ſtars and planets; the theories thereby ſuggeſted are more true than the ancient and vulgar ones, and on that account very like to diſcover to us more of the wiſdom of the divine author of this great and wonderful fabrick. But to deſcend to ſomewhat more particular, I ſhall add, that whereas the greater part by far of the modern *Virtuoſi*, that are any thing verſed in aſtronomy, favour the doctrine of *Copernicus*, as it is improved by the diſcoveries made by the help of the teleſcope, you will not wonder at it, if you duly weigh the advantages this *Hypotheſis* has of that, which is vulgarly received. And though it will not be proper for me to enumerate and inſiſt on them, yet it may not be amiſs to touch upon two or three of the chief.

AND firſt, by the *Copernican* ſyſtem divers inconveniencies are avoided, that do very much incumber the *Ptolemaic*. As for inſtance, the *Primum Mobile*, that muſt be of a greater diameter than the firmament, and move with ſo much force and ſwiftneſs, as to hurry all the ſtars of heaven, as well fixed as wandering, in twenty-four hours about the earth, is rendered needleſs. And ſo is that ſtupendous and incredible ſwiftneſs, wherewith a ſtar or deſignable point in the equinoctial of the *Firmament* is computed to move fifty thouſand times faſter, than a correſpondent point upon the equinoctial of the *terreſtrial Globe*. And yet this laſt named point is eſtimated to be moved no leſs ſwiftly, than a bullet ſhot out of a cannon. The *Copernican Hypotheſis* does alſo take off that extreme violence, that is perpetually offered by the *Primum Mobile* to the inferior heavens, which it rapidly whirls about from eaſt to weſt contrary to the natural inclination of the planetary orbs, which continually makes

makes them tend from weſt to eaſt. The ſame doctrine likewiſe frees the heavens from the cumberſome *Epicycles*, which the vulgar theory places in divers of the orbs, and particularly an incredibly vaſt one in that of *Venus*. It takes away likewiſe the ſolidity of the ſpheres, which makes it extremely difficult, if not impoſſible, to conceive, how they can exerciſe the contrary motions attributed them, one within another; not to mention, that theſe preſumedly ſolid orbs are inconſiſtent with that fluidity of the interſtellar part of the heavens, that may be inferred from the free trajection of the cœleſtial comets, and divers other *Phænomena*.

SECONDLY, the *Hypotheſis* we ſpeak of does both render as good an account as the other, of what is more obviouſly obſerved in the ſtars, ſuch as the viciſſitudes and various lengths of the day and night in ſeveral parts of the earth, the ſucceſſive ſeaſons of the year, the *Phaſes* of the moon, her eclipſes, and thoſe of the ſun, *&c.* and gives a far better account of the more difficult *Phænomena* in the theory of the planets, as the directions, ſtations, and retrogradations of ſome of them; why *Venus* is never diſtant from the ſun above 48 degrees, and *Mercury* far leſs; and why the earth is never interpoſed between the ſun and either of them.

AND laſtly, this *Hypotheſis* ſeems to have much more concinnity than the *Ptolemaic*, and to be much more congruous, *as* to the courſe, that nature holds on other occaſions, *ſo* to the wiſdom of the divine opificer of the heavens. For great bodies, ſuch as the *ſtarry Heaven* or *Firmament*, ſeem rather made for reſt, and little ones for motion; which therefore may be beſt aſcribed to the earth, which is but a phyſical point in compariſon of the other. Beſides, whereas nature is wont to perform her work by the moſt compendious ways, it ſeems unreaſonable to ſuppoſe, that ſhe will keep the vaſt cœleſtial bodies in a perpetual and moſt rapid motion, when all that invites them to aſſert theſe amazing motions, may be as well performed by a ſimple turning of this phyſical point, the earth, about its own *Axis* in twenty-four hours. And this ſome pleaſant diſciples of the new philoſophy think ſo extravagant, that they ſcruple not to repreſent it no leſs unreaſonable, than it were to make the ſhore move about a ſhip at anchor, inſtead of making the ſhip ſail along the ſhore, that the mariners might take a view of it; or to make the auditory walk round about the pulpit, inſtead of making the preacher turn his face ſucceſſively to the auditory. And this incongruity they judged to be the greater, becauſe the ſun has no need of the earth, that may invite it to motion for its ſake; but the earth has great need of the ſun, and receives all the benefit of the motion, that one of the two is ſuppoſed to make about the other. The violent and contrary motions aſcribed to the planets are much leſs agreeable to the ſimplicity of nature's ways of acting, than the ſingle and regular motion, that *Copernicus* aſcribes to each planet, conſtantly moving according to its own natural inclination from weſt to eaſt. And *Galileo*, *Gaſſendus*, and other elder *Copernicans* of this age, would have wonderfully rejoiced, and looked on it as a great confirmation of the *Pythagorean* doctrine, *that the earth is a planet*, if they had known what the happy induſtry of later years has diſcovered; namely, that as the earth turns about its own centre, ſo there are other ſtars unqueſtionably planets, as *Jupiter* and *Saturn*, that do the like, though not all of them in the ſame number of hours. And perhaps ſuch a converſion about their own *Axis* may be found even among the fixed ſtars, ſince the ſun, who ſhining by its own light ſeems to be one of thoſe, does probably make a revolution about his *Axis* in about twenty-ſix or twenty-ſeven days, as is plauſibly conjectured by the motion of ſome ſpots, that now and then laſt long enough (as with a good teleſcope I alſo had opportunity to obſerve) to finiſh an entire revolution in the fore-mentioned ſpace of time.

OTHER advantages may be mentioned, that warrant the preference our *Virtuoſi* give to the *Copernican Hypotheſis* before the vulgar. But I forbear to mention them, partly becauſe I could not do it without many words; partly becauſe you may find moſt of them judiciouſly laid down by the learned *Gaſſendus* in his Aſtronomical Inſtitutions, to which I therefore refer you; and partly becauſe I preſume what has been already ſaid, may ſuffice to juſtify this inference, that ſince a popular conſideration, or theories in divers points defective or erroneous, have been able to convince even heathen philoſophers, as well as multitudes of other men, that the diſpoſition and motions of the cœleſtial parts of the world argued a *wiſdom*, worthy to be aſcribed to *God* or *Gods*; a more true and full information of the ſtate of that nobleſt part of the world is able to furniſh a Chriſtian *Virtuoſo* with ſolid grounds, for a high veneration of the divine wiſdom and goodneſs, and ſuitable ſentiments of piety. * * *

PROPOS. I. SECT. I. SUBSECT. 3.

APHORISM.

THE mineral kingdom, as, after the chemiſts, moſt writers now call it, compriſes a far greater multitude of different bodies, than now naturaliſts, even moſt of the chemiſts themſelves, are aware of; and I know not whether there be not ſome kinds of them, that were not known to *Albertus Magnus*, *Geſnerus*, *Eucelius*, and others, not excepting *Agricola* himſelf, that it would perhaps puzzle them to know to what eſtabliſhed claſſes they can properly be referred. The curioſity I once had to make a collection of native ores, and other minerals and foſſils of *England*, furniſhes me with no inconſiderable ſtore and variety of them; and if I had not been quite diſcouraged by the diſaſter of a ſudden fire, that broke out in the midſt of the night in my lodging (whence I was forced to be carried out in my bed-clothes) and occaſioned a concourſe of ſoldiers from a neighbouring guard, and had diſſipated, burnt or confounded the title of the particular bodies, I ſhould doubtleſs have much increaſed the number of the different ſorts of minerals, that this kingdom affords.

PROPOS. I. SECT. I. SUBSECT. 4.

APHORISM I.

IF you ſhow an obſerving man, that has ſeen but common watches, one of thoſe curious watches, that ſhow beſides the hour of the day, the day of the week, and of the month, the age of the moon, the riſing and ſetting of the ſun, the tides, that continually vary according to the age of the moon: this perſon, though he will look upon the watch, as it is able to ſhow him the hour of the day, as a fine piece of workmanſhip; yet if he be informed and ſatisfied of the other, and particularly of the cœleſtial *Phænomena*, if I may ſo call them, that belong to that little engine, he will have a much higher value both for the work and for the artiſt. For he, to make it fit for thoſe additional and noble uſes above-mentioned, muſt not only have the ſkill of a bare mechanician, but be acquainted with the motions and periods of the heavenly lights, and thoſe of that vaſt portion of our inferior world, which under one name, the ocean, comprehends many ſeas; becauſe the artificer muſt in the framing of his little engine have had due regard to all theſe, and conſequently have had a comprehenſion of divers cœleſtial and hydrographical truths. This gives me

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a rise to observe, that the knowledge and providence, which the divine author of things has manifested in his animated works, though it be very conspicuous in the organization of the matter of a hen, for instance, and her chickens; yet to a skilful considerer, it will appear greater upon another account, I mean that of instincts. For though it be very improbable, that such an exquisite structure, as that of a hen, should have been made by chance luckily connecting and disposing the small parts of the matter, whereof the animal consists; yet it is far more improbable, that chance should produce an engine, that is not only furnished with what is requisite for its own support and welfare, but with organs for the propagation of its *species*, and, which is more, with impressions, that look like notices and affections, that do not belong to mere mechanism, but to providence, which foresaw what was like to befal this engine at certain times, and in certain states of it, and accordingly provided for such occasions and emergencies.

APHORISM II.

Adam having been formed the last of all the visible works of God, at the first opening of his eyes, saw plants and animals at their full growth and their full perfection; and no doubt was ravished into admiration of such exquisite and beautiful contrivances, as that glorious spectacle invited him to contemplate. But these curious machines being made by the immediate hand of God, it was less wonderful, that by his omniscience and omnipotence, such works should be constructed; but he might think, that the parts of the matter they consisted of, could not without the immediate and continual guidance of the divine artificer have been brought to constitute such curious and elaborate engines, which must be therefore uncapable to be imitated or produced by any other agent, or in any other way. But if he afterwards observed the propagation of plants from their seeds; and how from so small a body as an acorn, for instance, there should without any help of man be gradually formed a tall oak with all its trunk, branches, *&c.* and, which is more, its numerous acorns, each of which contains in a small part of it, perhaps scarce exceeding a good pin's-head, the model of a future oak; if, we say, he took notice of this, and considered by what simple methods, without any mechanical tools or instruments, the first acorn became an oak, such as we have mentioned; he probably more admired, that such a machine should be produced after such a manner; and that the first oak, that was the parent of it, should be framed without any tools at all by a divine artificer. Incomparably smaller bodies there are than acorns, are found to be the seeds that produce great trees, some of them perhaps bigger than oaks: but I chose to take an instance from acorns, because the oak is so obvious and well known a tree.

If also we suppose *Adam* to have observed the steps, whereby a hen or other animal is produced from the *cicatricula* of an egg, whereof perhaps not near the ten thousandth part, a perfect animal, I say, furnished with all that multitude and variety of organical parts, or subordinate machines, that concur to compleat it; he saw yet more cause of admiration, especially supposing him to have considered, that such large birds as ostriches, and such large animals as allegators and crocodiles, do notoriously spring from eggs; and so perhaps do far greater animals than these, though not so manifestly, because they are not excluded nor found enclosed in shells. The fabrick of these living machines is very wonderful; but it is perhaps no less so, that such curious pieces of work should be produced by such simple ways, as a few laws

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of local motion, whose efficacy is determined by the present constitution of the world, especially those parts of matter, that they act upon, or that act upon them. Which puts me in mind of *Euclid*'s *Axiomata* and *Postulata*, which, as few and simple as they are, led that skilful geometrician to the mystery of that admirable science, and even to the abstrusest propositions, and to all of the tenth book of his elements, which one will admire how the wit of man could be able to discover by any means whatsoever, much more by a few such plain and simple ones as we lately named.

If an *Indian*, or country fellow, or a man wholly unacquainted with mathematicks, should be shown out of a window a fine garden and neighbouring landskip; and should see a skilful painter with his pencils, and great variety of colours, draw the picture of them very much to the life, he would justly esteem his skill. But if a master of opticks should tell him, that he would make him a fine picture of all the things there represented by those pencils, and colours, or skill in painting, by ways far more simple, the spectator would scarce believe him: but if the artist should by barely darkening the room, by putting to the shuts of the windows, and letting in the light at a hole duly placed and covered with a convex glass; he would be amazed to see in a trice, upon a sheet of paper held at a just distance from the glass, a whole landskip curiously delineated with the proportions, colours, and situation upon the plants of the garden; and, which the landskip could not show, the several motions, that the flowers and leaves were chanced to be put into by the wind, and such a picture, (to add that upon the by) though less distinct and vivid, may be made without the help of the glass, especially if the sun shine upon the garden, when the species enter at the hole.

APHORISM III.

There are other creatures subjected to man's direct dominion, that are of very great use to him without exceeding the number of twenty or thirty.

To which belongs the oak, the fir-tree, the cocoa-tree, the cotton-tree, the vine, the plant that bears the pepper, the plant that affords indico, wheat, rice, mayz, flax, hemp, horses, beeves, sheep, beavers, dogs; and in the northern countries deer, (taking that name in a large sense) to comprise elks, rein-deer, *&c.* and in hot climates, camels, and elephants; and in the sea, whales, not to mention clays (for bricks, pots, *&c.*) Common stone for building and manuring of ground, and the ores of metals, whose utility is generally enough known.

I must not here forget to take notice, that even poisonous creatures are not all of them to be excluded from the number of those that are found to be highly advantageous to multitudes of men, and consequently to deserve their gratitude. For not to mention the great medicinal virtues of vipers and scorpions, that opium is a poison to most men, that are not by degrees used to it, in case it be given, though but in few grains, as six or seven, and perhaps far less, many tragical instances have declared, and yet it is, if skilfully given, of great efficacy to multitudes of persons of differing ages and complexions, and in great number and variety of distempers, as is notorious to physicians and apothecaries, and many others besides. And as one poisonous plant, as the poppy, whose juice affords opium, is in many cases a noble medicine; so another poisonous plant, by a very slight preparation, affords a very useful aliment. The plant I mean is mandioca, whose root (though when it is crude) is believed to be poisonous; and a general of the *English* forces in *America* told me, that in his army several animals were killed by the use of it, before they knew

knew the mischievous qualities of it. And yet by a slight preparation, not only the juice of this root is made a drink, that is in great request and common use among the *Indians*, but a great part of the people of divers vast regions of *America* live upon it as we do upon bread; their cassavi, which is made of the consistent substance of the root after the juicy part is separated from it, affording them a substance analogous to our bread, which I have seen very white, and have sometimes tasted with pleasure.

And if there be (for I speak but conditionally, and very hesitantly) a truth in the vulgar astrology, or in some other doctrine of the influences of the cœlestial bodies for such a one, some things, that I have observed, incline me to think there may be, man may apply the stars themselves to several beneficial purposes and uses, particularly by making talismans, and the like bodies. Of which divers instances are given us by historians and travellers of good credit, and of which in another paper I deliver two memorable relations, that I had from very credible witnesses upon their own punctual knowledge.

APHORISM IV.

God bestowed upon man the dominion and use of all other animals, beasts, birds, fishes, reptiles, and insects, by direct donation, and together with them all vegetables that grow upon the earth, which he may make use of by employing them immediately, or oftentimes more to his advantage by the intervention of beasts and other animals, to whom they serve for aliments, as these do for man, the number of man's direct subjects is more considerable than most men think; for the various kinds of four footed beasts, birds, fishes, and other animals amount to a multitude, as those that have been curious and industrious to find them out, and enumerate them have declared; and for plants, though botanists agree not so well, as it were to be wished they did, about the several species of plants, yet by what we find in the diligent *Baubinus*, there was in his time about six thousand sorts of plants, and the number has been since much increased, by what divers curious persons have written; besides which, I know two or three virtuosi that are good herbalists, who travelling in divers parts of *America*, partly islands, and partly regions of the continent, found there and brought away for *Europe*, many scores, if not many hundreds of undescribed plants, some of which they shewed me, and others they presented me to.

APHORISM V.

That so many and so various creatures as we have mentioned, to be directly subjected by God to man's dominion, may be of great advantage to him, and of more than they have been, when once they shall be improved by sagacious and industrious virtuosi, may appear very probable, if we consider what great benefits accrue not only to single persons, but to whole communities, and sometimes even to nations by two or three vegetables, as many reptiles and insects, and as few minerals, of most of which the uses were unknown to the ancients, and those of the rest but little known; the vegetables I mean, are none of the greater stately trees, but plants which are most despicable for their small bulk. The first of these is sugar, made of the express juice of the sugar cane, which is brought both from the *West* and *East-Indies*, and that in such quantities, that the little island of *Barbadoes* alone furnishes *Europe* with the lading of many score ships in a year; and a sober knight, which was governor

governor of it, told me, that, if I much miſremembered not the number, that ſmall iſland did then furniſh *England* with about eleven hundred thouſand pound weight of ſugar of its own growth. The other plant, though reckoned but a weed, makes at this day a great part of the commerce between *Europe* and ſome *American* country, eſpecially *Virginia*; the latter of which country ſends yearly into *England* alone a conſiderable fleet freighted almoſt only with tobacco. If therefore two plants, whereof one is a reed, and the other a weed, and two inſects, the meaneſt ſort of animals, and a couple of rude and dark minerals have already been made to be ſo ſerviceable to man, by what they afford him, and by the various employments they give to ſome hundreds of thouſands of indigent perſons to cultivate, manufacture, and tranſport them, what may we not think of the benefits, that in proceſs of time, ſuch multitudes as we lately mentioned of other plants, animals, and minerals, may by man's induſtry be brought to afford him? All which improvements ought to excite man's gratitude to him, that made thoſe creatures to his hand, and endowed him with a rational faculty and fit organs to exerciſe his plenary dominion over them.

APHORISM VI.

Two reptiles there are that afford a great part of the wealth of divers whole countries, *viz.* that caterpillar, which we call the ſilk-worm, which is ſaid to have been brought into *Europe* about the time of the emperor *Juſtinian*, and now is ſo much uſed in a great many kingdoms and other countries, that its products, raw and manufactured, make the wealth of a great part of the inhabitants of the earth, and the pride of many more. The other is cochineal, whoſe nature I know is much diſputed; but an ingenious perſon, that was the firſt *Engliſh* governor of *Jamaica*, and was at his bidding me farewel, deſired to examine the *Spaniards* about it, informed me, that it was the hinder part of a peculiar ſort of fly, which was confirmed to me by a phyſician, whoſe writings are not unknown, that was born in *America*, who aſſured me, that he had not only ſeen the flies breed, but purpoſely bred them; how rich a commodity they are, the great rates that are given for them by dyers of ſcarlet, and ſeveral other colours, and alſo by men of other profeſſions, do ſufficiently manifeſt.

APHORISM VII.

THERE is another thing that belongs to animal creatures in certain ſtates, which though it be not properly referable to any of the foregoing heads, and is not wont to be taken notice of by anatomiſts and phyſicians; yet ſeems to me to deſerve a peculiar mention and regard. The thing I mean is, that which is commonly called inſtinct, and ſeems to be a ſeminal, or at leaſt a congenite impreſſion, that inclines an animal whilſt he is in a certain ſtate, ſpontaneouſly to purſue or avoid ſome things, that tend ſo ſupply him with ſomewhat that he wants, or to make him avoid or eſcape ſomething that would endanger or hurt him. I ſpeak thus disjunctively, becauſe the inſtincts of animals are not all of one kind in differing ſpecies, and ſometimes are manifold even in the ſame individual; when he happens to be in differing circumſtances, though they all tend to one general ſcope, the welfare of the animal whom the inſtinct chiefly regards.

APHO-

APHORISM VIII.

THESE impreſſions or propenſities are of ſo peculiar a kind, that not only they ſeem not referable to caſual mechaniſm, but have ſomething belonging to them, that is ſupra-mechanical, and beyond the reach, not only of mere chance alone, but of any plaſtic principle not framed by an intelligent and deſigning agent. For in the *ſtorge* or natural affections of divers animals to their young ones, as (that I may give a very obvious example) of hens to their offſpring. There appears in the parent manifeſt tokens of ſolicitouſneſs, ſkill, and in ſome caſes courage too, *in* ſitting upon her eggs for ſome weeks; *in* turning them from time to time, ſo as by her warmth ſucceſſively to cheriſh ſeveral parts of them; *in* taking care when they are hatched, to guide them, to provide for their ſuſtenance, and ſome time upon occaſion to defend them, and that with a ſtoutneſs, that belongs not naturally to thoſe tame and puſillanimous birds. Now it may deſerve to be conſidered, that this ſtrange affection towards her eggs and chickens, is no part, whether ſimilar or organical of the hen, who is completely organized and fitted for her own preſervation, before ſhe lays an egg. So that this *ſtorge* ſupervenes to the animal already perfect in her kind, and does not tend directly to her own preſervation, but on the contrary makes her loſe a great deal of time in ſitting, which ſhe might and would have otherwiſe employed to go in queſt of her own food, and makes her give herſelf a great deal of trouble, and ſometimes expoſe herſelf to a great deal of danger, for the ſake of a little helpleſs creature, that when grown up will exerciſe no gratitude towards her. When all this is reflected on, if it be alſo further conſidered, that this paſſionate concern of the hen for her offſpring, is but a temporary thing, and ceaſes when the young birds are grown up to be able to live without their dam, and provide for themſelves; this wonderful ſtorge ſeems manifeſtly enough to declare, that it is an inſtitution, if not an artifice, of ſome benign and provident being, that juſt at a fit ſeaſon, and whilſt it laſts, and no longer, acts the parent to do things ſhe was never taught, that are as unprofitable to herſelf, as uſeful, nay neceſſary, to her otherwiſe helpleſs offſpring.

APHORISM IX.

AMONG the other things, which becauſe they are familiar, do not ſo much as engage our attention, much leſs excite our wonder, we muſt not forget the eggs of dunghill hens. For though their commonneſs makes men daily eat them, without looking on them but as aliments; yet a heedful inſpection may ſoon manifeſt, that they deſerve more regard. This it were not hard to ſhow by ſeveral inſtances, but it may ſuffice for our preſent purpoſe to point at two. The firſt is the *cicatricula* or ſmall round ſpeck, that is to be ſeen on the coat of the yolk of an egg. For in this very ſmall part of the egg, the curioſity of the excellent *Malphigi* has lately diſcovered a chick already formed, with all its eſſential parts; ſo that the incubation of the hen does little or nothing more, than diſſolve the humours of the egg, and procure that the parts of the chick, that ſeemed indiſtinct, or ſcarce (if at all) viſible before, coming to be enlarged by the acceſſion of aliment ſtored up by nature in the egg itſelf, may be diſplayed, and become firſt manifeſt and then conſpicuous. The order and ſeries of appoſite changes, that may be obſerved in this curious work of nature, to turn a *cicatricula* into a perfect chick, is truly admirable, as will eaſily be confeſſed by him, that has read our excellent *Harvey*, and ſome other modern anatomiſts, who have further and happily cultivated that ſubject.

Wherefore I pass on to my second instance, which I shall take from one part of the structure of an egg, which seems trivial, and accordingly is wont to be overlooked. For the treadles of the egg, which have been for many ages erroneously thought to be the principles of the chick (though each egg has two of them, and those very distant from one another) these, I say, are considerable parts of a wonderful mechanical contrivance; for such that is, that suspends a fluid body, as is the yolk of the egg in the midst of another fluid; the white, which incompasses the yolk equally on every side, and that so constantly, that which way soever you turn the egg, the liquors retain their due situation in respect of one another. And this is so fine and difficult a piece of mechanism, that the most skilful artists, (whether mathematicians or chemists) that have attempted to *detain* one liquor in the midst of another, every way ambient, have found their industry defeated. And though my endeavours to perform this perhaps made somewhat nearer approximation, yet I willingly confess, that the utmost I was able to do, did but very imperfectly imitate what nature excellently does in the situation of the yolk and white of the egg.

APHORISM X.

As light as we make of the feathers of a bird, yet one of these may give even philosophers just cause to admire the divine perspicacity and providence. To take, for instance, the feather of a peacock's train, and yet to pass by the curious mechanisms, that may be observed in the feather upon the account of its quill and other parts; what a stupendous foresight is argued by the half-moon that adorns it? For it is more than barely wonderful, *that* in so small, and as to sense, so simple and uniform a liquor, as that small portion of an hatching egg, which later anatomists call the *Colliquamentum*, that appears to the eye an uniform liquor, there should be some minute and distinguishable parcel of matter, which by virtue of the general laws of motion, and the fabrick of the egg, (which seems very slight and unelaborate) *that* I say, this small portion of a drop or two of matter, should by the divine governance be so carried through all the various changes of size, situation, motion, and contexture, which during the incubation it undergoes in the egg, that at length it should appear in the feather in a new and peculiar texture, and vivid colour, quite different from those it had in the *Colliquamentum*; and so exactly determined to a particular position, and (which is yet more strange, to a true regard to all the other particles, that belong to the half-moon) as to concur exactly with them all, to constitute that gaudy and pleasant figure. This is still the more wonderful, because a skilful painter could not make it more fine in point of shape, nor adorn it with such beautiful colours and those changeable too; nor could such a regular and vivid picture be made, unless every sensible part of it were as skilfully guided as that we first pitched upon, and so steered as both to attain its proper colour, and to arrive at its determinate place, and settle there, without stopping short of it, or advancing sensibly beyond it.

You, Sir, to whom I have the happiness to be sufficiently known, will need but a short advertisement (if any) to persuade you, that after all that I have said, or shall hereafter say in this discourse, to the advantage of philosophical piety, I am far from any intention to depreciate, that sublime and compleat piety which is taught in the gospel, and much more from preferring natural religion to that which Christians are blessed with by supernatural revelation. And indeed, though the fabrick of the world, and the gospel dispensation, do both of them proceed from the same divine author,

author, and therefore may without profaneneſs be compared with one another: yet the latter may without partiality be judged more admirable than the former. And in my opinion, it is pity, that ſo excellent a contrivance as the divine wiſdom and goodneſs has deviſed for the ſalvation of men, ſhould not be more worthily treated of, and ſhould not have its myſterious receſſes better looked into, and more ſkilfully diſplayed, than they are wont to be in common place books, and vulgar (though perhaps pompous) courſes of theology. And indeed the divine wiſdom and beneficence, not to mention other adorable attributes can ſcarce be *ſo* wonderfully exerciſed in ſuch an ignoble a ſubject as ſenſeleſs matter, in all whoſe productions and phænomena, how various and wonderful ſoever they appear to us, there needs but the guidance of the local motions of the greater and ſmaller fragments of it according to a very few laws which they are not diſpoſed to diſobey, *as* in governing ſpiritual beings and free agents, that have wills, intereſts, and deſigns, of their own.

But I fear, you will tell me, that I wander from my ſubject, (which yet on this occaſion, I think but a venial fault) and therefore I ſhall only in this place hint to you, that the ſtudy, how ſucceſsful ſoever, of corporeal things, can give us but a mechanical knowledge, and diſcover to us nothing but variety of mechaniſm; whereas the ſtudy of immaterial and ſacred things, may procure us the knowledge of incomparably nobler objects, and of ſuch depths and fetches (if I may ſo ſpeak) of wiſdom and providence, as human reaſon without illapſes of divine light, would never have diſcovered, and as *the angels themſelves deſire to pry into.* And having ſaid thus much, which probably is more than enough, to ſhow that a man, that admires the wiſdom of God conſpicuous in his works, may diſcern both it and divers other adorable attributes more glorioufly diſplayed in the book we call ſcripture, than in the book of nature. I ſhall now reſume my interrupted diſcourſe.

SECTION II.

The ſecond ſection ſhews the religious uſe a *Chriſtian Virtuoſo* may make of the contemplation of the *Microcoſm*, which conſiſts of four parts. The 1ſt relates to the anatomy of a dead human body, and the mechaniſm of a living one. Sub-ſect. (1.) The 2d relates to the human mind, or rational ſoul, and the faculties and powers it has within itſelf, as belonging to its own diſtinct nature. Sub-ſect. (2.) The 3d relates to a man, as he is a being integrated by a human mind and living body, ſtrictly aſſociated by certain laws of union or conſociation eſtabliſhed by God in this monadical creature. Sub-ſect. (3.) To which ſub-ſections there are joined, *fourthly*, ſome applicatory reflections on the whole. Sub-ſect. (4.)

Having diſpatched what I thought fit to ſay about the *Macrocoſm*, I proceeded to take notice of ſome helps to piety and devotion, that may be afforded to our *Virtuoſo* by the conſideration of the *Microcoſm*, as the ancient philoſophers, as well as the later chymiſts, have ſtiled man. * * *

But that you may not expect in the following papers, what I did not intend they ſhould contain; it is very neceſſary, that you ſhould ſeaſonably know, (though it be not perhaps neceſſary, that I ſhould ſolicitouſly inform you of it) that I do neither *pretend* nor *purpoſe* in this paper, to treat of any works of nature as they are ſuch, and are endowed with phyſical qualities and other affections. Since my deſign is to conſider thoſe few I have occaſion to make mention of, not chiefly, if at all, with reference to philoſophy, but to religion, as the contemplation of them may conduce to piety, and ſuggeſt reflections fit to excite and cheriſh devotion.

The FIRST SUB-SECTION.

THOUGH the dignity of the ſubjects ſeems to require, that we ſhould begin what we have to ſay of man, rather by the conſideration of the rational ſoul, than by that of the human body; yet I ſhall chuſe to treat firſt of this latter, both becauſe the body is generally reputed to be more known to us than the mind; and becauſe the knowledge of the body, and its corporeal functions, may aſſiſt us to diſcover the nature of the mind, by reflecting on thoſe operations, that exceed the mechanical powers of the body, or even thoſe of matter taken in a more general ſenſe. And it may perhaps recommend this order, that it aſpires to imitate that of the infinitely wiſe author of human nature, who firſt framed the body of *Adam*, and then breathed the ſoul into it: thus preparing the manſion, before he thought fit to introduce the inhabitant.

As human bodies are found in two very differing ſtates, namely whilſt they are living, and when they are dead; ſo they may fall under two diſtinct conſiderations. But in this place, where I do not pretend to treat fully of the ſubject, I ſhall for brevity's ſake allow myſelf ſometimes to intermingle my reflections on both, as they occur to me, and leave you to ſort them, if you think fit.

THOUGH a living animal be confeſſedly by great odds preferable to the ſame animal deſtitute of life, yet becauſe the knowledge of the ſtructure and contents of a cadaver has been more cultivated by phyſicians, and is more eaſily attainable than that of a living man, I ſhall begin with the leſs worthy ſubject. I ſay then, that even a dead human body, though an engine by very great odds inferior to a living one, does yet abound, or rather conſiſts of, parts ſo curiouſly framed and ſkilfully united into one engine, that to give a ſatisfactory account of all the particulars in it, that manifeſt an excellent wiſdom in the mechaniſt, would oblige me to tranſcribe almoſt a whole inſtitution of anatomy. For which reaſon it may ſuffice for my preſent purpoſe, curſorily to mention ſome of the chief heads, to which the particular reflections, that my intended brevity forbids me to inſiſt on, may, I think, be commodiouſly enough referred: ſuch are, firſt, the number, and ſecondly, the variety of the integrant parts of the body; thirdly, the fabrick of theſe, conſidered as parts; and fourthly, (and laſtly) the contrivance and ſymmetry of the whole machine as ſuch.

BUT though, that I might not too much wrong my ſubject, I thought fit to enumerate the newly mentioned particulars; yet I hope you do not expect to find them ſeparately enlarged upon, in papers that muſt make but a part of a tract, which when entire, ought not to be great. On which account, and that of my want of leiſure, I ſhall make reflections upon *ſome* of them by way of *ſpecimens*, contenting myſelf to have named the reſt, and to declare, that I decline treating of them as well as the others, not out of diſeſteem, but becauſe I cannot treat of all I have enumerated. And this advertiſement I deſire may be extended to all the remaining part of this (ſecond) ſection, and applied to the other liſts of particulars, which would, if all of them were inſiſted on, make the firſt propoſition (of the ſecond part) enormouſly diſproportionate to the reſt.

Article 1. THAT the *number* of the manifeſtly diſtinct parts of a human body, in proportion to its bulk is very great, eſpecially if compared with thoſe that ſuffice to make up even the moſt curious artificial engines, as clocks, watches, *&c.* will be eaſily granted, if we conſider, that thoſe groſſer parts, the bones, notwithſtanding the fewneſs of them, that are uſually taken notice of by the vulgar, are reckoned to be above 250; nay, I find, that the famous and diligent anatomiſt *Veſlingius*, aſſerts them to

amount to more than 300. And it is known, that many of the bones have each of them ſeveral muſcles faſtened or belonging to it; and a muſcle is uſually furniſhed with two tendons, blood-veſſels, and divers other parts. And not to mention thoſe parts, that are found either ſingle, as the heart, liver, ſpleen, *&c.* or only in pairs, as the eyes, the ears, the teſticles, *&c.* There are ſeveral other ſorts of parts, whereof each ſort contains many of the ſame denomination to be found in divers parts of the body, as cartilages, ligaments, and more plentifully glandules of divers kinds, membranes, nerves, veins, arteries, *&c.* To ſay nothing of the liquors to be met with in a human body, as blood, gall, chyle, *ſuccus pancreaticus*, *lympha*, &c. But that a human body compriſes very numerous parts, will be further manifeſted, if we proceed to take notice of the variety of them, ſince it will appear highly probable, that an engine, that conſiſts of ſo great and conſpicuous variety of parts cannot but comprehend a multitude of them.

The *variety* juſt now mentioned, may in great part be eaſily deduced from what has been newly ſaid already, but becauſe the enumeration there made is very imperfect, the number and differences of diſtinct ſorts of parts would much better appear, if the limits this paper ought to have, would permit me to diſplay the ſeveral diſtinctions, that naturaliſts and phyſicians have been obliged to make of the parts of a human body, as into ſimular and organical, into head, cheſt, and limbs, into parts containing, contained, and impellent, to mention now no more of ſuch like diſtinctions, but I am reduced for brevity's ſake, to refer you for ſatisfaction, to what will abundantly give it you, the attentive ſurvey of a ſkilful diſſected body. For there you will not only ſee many different ſorts of parts, as bones, veins, arteries, nerves, cartilages, ligaments, muſcles, fibres, membranes, parenchymas, as they are called, glandules, *&c.* but you will eaſily obſerve, that the parts compriſed under each of theſe ſorts or denominations are many, if not moſt of them manifeſtly diverſified by diſtinguiſhing accidents, ſuch as bulk, figure, conſiſtence, texture, colour, *&c.* As bones are ſome far bigger, and ſome much harder than others are, unlike in ſhape, have epiphyſes and apophyſes, differing in ſituation, connection, and other accidents; ſo the membranes of the eye differ from moſt others of the body, and not a little from one another, as is evident in the *cornea* and the *retina*, ſo the milky and the lymphatick veſſels differ from other veins, and the valves of two ventricles of the heart differ both in ſituation, figure, and ſtrength, from thoſe of the ſanguiferous veins, and of the lymphæducts, ſo in the muſcles there is a wonderful diverſity, either (to omit their being, or not being ſphincters) as to their largeneſs, thickneſs, tendons, corneous portions, thinneſs of fibres, number, ſtrength, and tendencies of fibres, ſhapes, bigneſs, number, origination and inſertion of the tendons, of which moſt are entire, but ſome perforated by others; ſo of glandules, ſome are conglobated, as the moderns call them, and ſome conglomerated, or cluſter-like, ſome very large, and others in compariſon extremely ſmall, as many of thoſe formerly unobſerved ones in the ſtomach and divers other places; and theſe glandules are reſpectively furniſhed with an artery, a vein, and nerve, and uſually alſo an excretory veſſel ſuitable to its ſize and uſes, to all which kinds of parts, if we add ſuch as, for the peculiarities belonging to them, ſeem not ſo clearly referable to any of the former kinds, ſuch as the vitreous ſubſtance, the horny coat, as it is called, and the cryſtalline lens of the eye. And alſo thoſe parts of a female human body, that belong peculiarly to the ſex, and thoſe temporary ones, if I may ſo call them, that are proper to a woman that is big with child, and come off after her delivery, and which ſome anatomiſts therefore call deciduous parts, ſuch as the placentia uterina, urachus, and the different membranes that involve the fœtus; if, I ſay, to the formerly Article II.

merly enumerated kinds of parts, we ſubjoin theſe two additional ſorts, we ſhall find the number of parts that deſerve to be looked on as diſtinct, and the various accidents that diverſify them to be exceeding great, which I think may be more probable, if you conſider with me (what is too little taken notice of) that this great multitude and variety of parts, whereof this human engine conſiſts, are (without need to interfere in their actions) packed up in incomparably leſs room, than the beſt mechaniſt in the world would require; for an engine of very much fewer and leſs different parts, eſpecially which I deſire you to reflect on, if due regard be had to the ſtrength, as well as diſpoſition of the parts; for this ſtrength is wonderful in divers that make up the human body, as may appear by the wonderful things, that ſome muſcles perform, and ſome tendons and ligaments ſuſtain; for during that time where nature aims not at the ſtrength of parts, but their fabrick and confirmation, or, in a word, the due organization of the matter, as in an embryo, almoſt all the parts of a man at his full ſtature are to be found crouded, yet without interfering, injuring, or hindering each other, into a fœtus incredibly ſmall, ſince it is delivered by anatomiſts of great authority, that about the end of ſix weeks, or ſuch a term, as may ſuffice to ſhow the little model of a man to be completely animated, it is ſometimes ſcarce any bigger than an ant or piſmire. This may appear incredible to many, and it would have done ſo to me, if I had not remembered, that when I made the obſervations, elſewhere mentioned, about the progreſs obſerved by nature in the hatching of the eggs of hens, I found it true what our famous *Harvey*, and ſome of his followers have noted, that the bird proceeds from the cicatricula, or white ſpot, that is found upon the coat or membrane of the yolk, the reſt of the fluid matter of the egg being employed to nouriſh the daily growing *embryo*; for the proportion of this little ſpeck, as ſome good authors call it, of the whole body of the egg, or that of the complete chick is ſo very ſmall as ſcarce to be at all conſiderable, as will be readily granted by thoſe, that have compared the ſmall dimenſions of the animated ſpeck with thoſe of the cavity of the whole egg, and made due allowance for the imperfection of the figures, ſhall on this occaſion make uſe of the mathematical rules about triplicate proportion.

But I muſt not enlarge on a ſubject, that would lead me too far, and therefore it ſhall here ſuffice to add this reflection, that the number and variety of the parts of a human body are ſo great, that the names of the parts *already* obſerved (and I am confident *all* that may be are not ſo) might, if well ranged, almoſt ſuffice to make a dictionary, the terms that diſſectors have been obliged to employ, to expreſs the parts of the leſſer world, are more numerous than thoſe that mathematicians have thought fit to make uſe of in aſtronomy and geography put together; ſo that an anatomical dictionary may be more copious than a coſmographical one, which you will perhaps the more eaſily believe, if I add this reflection, that beſides the diſtinct parts conſidered ſeparately, there are many things fit to be declared in the writings of anatomiſts about the ſituations, inſertions, and connections of parts, as to omit the ſyſtem of muſcles that compoſe the heart, the manners wherein the bones are joined are ſo many, that they are nine or ten harſh terms, ſuch as ſynchondroſis, ſynneuroſis, gomphoſis, arthrodia, ginglymus, *&c.* to expreſs them.

Article III. The conſideration of the parts of a human body looked upon *ſeparately*, that is, as each of them is *ſingle* or connected with only *ſome others*, and not united with *all* of them into one engine, (for this, conſidered as ſuch, is to be the head of the fourth article:) this conſideration, I ſay, added to the two foregoing articles, may manifeſt how exquiſitely framed a fabrick the human body is; the parts that make it up being not more numerous than conſiderable for the differing ſtructures and conſiſtences of them:

them: all which are here compriſed under the name of the *fabrick of the ſeveral integrant parts* of the human body. I ſay then, that the parts conſidered as ſuch, may afford a great many inſtances to our preſent purpoſe; but time will not permit me to take notice, in this place, of more than one or two.

THE firſt of theſe is the eye, which in a little room compriſes ſo many curious parts, and ſo ſkilfully aſſociated into one inſtrument of viſion; that as great a variety of objects as it ſurveys in the ſpacious univerſe, it ſcarce diſcovers any thing more exquiſitely framed than itſelf.

THIS part of the body as ſmall as it is in bulk, hath ſeveral *auxiliary* parts belonging to it, and is itſelf compoſed of a conſiderable number and variety of *conſtituent* parts.

FOR anatomiſts are wont to reckon as belonging to the eye, not only the newly mentioned adjuvant parts, which they call contained, but thoſe others to which they give the name of containing, ſuch as *the pericranium*, that lines the *orbit*, or ſocket of the eye; *the* two eye-lids, *the* two *canthi* or glands at the two corners of each eye; *the* fat, to fence the eyes from cold, and help to keep them dry; the ſix muſcles, four right ones, and two oblique ones, whereof one of the firſt ſort ſerves to raiſe the eye, another to depreſs it, a third to draw it to the right hand, and the other towards the left. And of the ſecond ſort, one draws obliquely downwards, and the other obliquely upwards; and this laſt named is furniſhed with an unuſual addition like a pulley to ſtrengthen it, as both that muſcle, and each of the fifth is with ſmall nerves to convey to it ſpirits for ſenſe and motion. Nor do theſe want others of the containing parts of the eye, that are themſelves compounded enough; as the gland ſeated at the outer corner of the eye, and by ſome called *innominata*, which though leſſer than the other, is yet a conglomerated one, (that is made up of ſeveral ſmaller cleaving together) and furniſhed with capillary veſſels, veins, arteries, and *lymphæducts*. And in an eye-lid, beſides other conſtituent parts, as two fine ſkins, and between them a thin *membrana carnoſa*, we may obſerve all along the inſide of the edge a ſoft cartilage, beſides a row of hairs, that have this peculiar that they do not grow as the hairs of the head and beard do; but having attained their full growth, continue of the ſame length for many years together, ſo as not to need to be cut. And theſe eye-lids are of excellent uſe to the eye, ſerving both for curtains to keep out the light when it is not deſired, which the cartilages that ſtrengthen their edges, and help them to ſhut very cloſe, enable them the better to do, *and* to fence the eye from duſt, and cold, and ſmoke, and other outward injuries; *and*, which is more, to do it two ſervices that ſeem of a contrary nature: for the eye-lid *both* wipes the cornea when duſt or any ſuch thing adheres to it, and in a ſort dries it, by diſplacing inconvenient moiſture; *and* yet, by the help of the lympha, it moiſtens the eye from time to time, which would ſoon grow dry, and helps it to move more glibly.

TO advance now to thoſe intimate parts of the organ, that are called the contained, I think it worth obſerving, that there is ſomething in the texture of the *tunicles* of the eye, that is but imperfectly diſcovered by a diſſector's knife, and yet is an excellent part of the mechaniſm of it. For *whereas* the other nerves of the body are induſtriouſly hid by nature beneath other parts, to fence them from outward injuries, and from cold, by which the nerves are very much prejudiced; and *whereas* the outward coat of a nerve is wont to be extremely ſenſible of punctures, or the rude touches of external bodies; *whereas*, I ſay, theſe things are thus in other nerves, the bulb of the eye conſiſts mainly of the optick nerve expanded. For the *ſclerotis*, of which the *cornea* is a part, is an expanſion of the outward coat of the optick nerve; and yet the *cornea* is not eaſily offended, nor is apt to cauſe any convulſions, even when

it

it is pricked quite through; and it is not only without harm expoſed immediately to the cold air, but even in frosty weather it is ſeldom ſenſible of any cold. And the other tunicle called *uvea*, though it proceeds from the internal and exceeding thin membrane of the optick nerve, yet it affords the *iris*, which is of a differing texture from the membrane before it enters the eye. And then that which paſſes for a tunicle under the name of *retina*, not only has its filaments ſo expanded, as to cover the bottom of the eye, and reach as far as the cryſtalline humour; but though it be a medullary part of a nerve, yet it is ſafely expoſed to the action of external bodies, whether lucid or illuſtrated, without loſing that exquiſite tenderneſs or ſenſibility, that makes it capable of being affected both by light itſelf, and by all the numerous modifications of light, that are, or produce colours. Which ſenſibility it can retain, though it be thus expoſed to the action of ſo many bodies, becauſe the pores of the diaphaneous parts of the eye are ſo very ſmall, that the objects affect it but by the intervention of light, which is a thing proportionable to ſuch tender filaments, and therefore may be indured by them, though it act briſkly enough to make ſenſible, and perhaps vivid impreſſions on them.

IT has three ſeveral humours, beſides the juices that ſerve to nouriſh it. It hath as many coats, and there belongs to it the optick nerve, and according to modern diſcoveries, lymphæducts, beſides ſanguiferous veſſels, ſome of which I have had the good fortune to ſee and ſhew even in the nerve and other parts of an inferior order. Each of the humours has its own peculiar conſiſtence and nature, and as moſt anatomiſts teach, its membrane too. The *aqueous* humour is ſo called from the fluidity that makes it reſemble water; and though it paſs for inſipid, yet I have found, even without diſtillation, that it is not deſtitute of a fine volatile ſalt. The *vitreous* humour, though it be fluid enough to accommodate itſelf to the figure of any fitly ſized veſſel that it may be put into, is yet much heavier than water, and will lie with a diſtinct ſurface both in it and in many other liquors. And the *cryſtalline* humour (improperly ſo called) though it be clear like the ſubſtance, whence it had its denomination, is of a very differing texture from the other two, as is manifeſt to the touch, and as I have found by eaſy chemical experiments. There is alſo much diſparity both as to bulk, conſiſtence, and figure, between the ſeveral tunicles or coats of the eye. Nor is the difference hard to be diſcovered between the other parts that concur to compoſe it, as is obvious to any that hath ſeen an eye well diſſected. Such a perſon will ſcarce fail of diſcovering, that it is not without wonderful art, that ſo many curious, and ſeveral of them very fine and tender parts, can be crouded together into ſo little room without hindering one another in the exerciſes of their motions and functions; but, on the contrary, be brought as it were to conſpire to aſſiſt each other in performing their motions glibly. And here let me obſerve, that the curiouſneſs of the mechaniſm of an eye deſerves not, perhaps, ſo much wonder as it is conſidered with relation to its anatomical ſtructure, as when it is conſidered with reference to light and to the laws of opticks. For the diſſector, who knows no more of the eye, than a dexterous hand, and a ſharp knife can teach him, will not be able to give others or himſelf a good account of ſeveral weighty queſtions, that may rationally be made about the ſtructure of the eye, and divers obſervables that have a ſtrict connection with it. He ſees not for inſtance, *why* the cryſtalline humour ought to be placed between the two others; *why* the cornea ſhould be ſomewhat protuberant, and almoſt a portion of a ſphere; *why* the humour that lies next under it ſhould be fluid like water, rather than of ſuch a conſiſtence as the vitreous; *why* the cryſtalline ſhould be not of near ſo globous a form as the *cornea*, but of a double convex figure; and why both ſides of this natural *lens* have not the ſame kind of (the ſurface next

next the *cornea* being much flatter than the other) convexity; *why* the inside of the *choroides* is of a figure somewhat resembling that of a great portion of a hollow sphere; and *why* it is of such a colour; *why* the optick nerve, that reaches entire to the eye, spreads itself in slender filaments all over the concave bottom newly mentioned, making an expansion that looks somewhat like a net; *why* these filaments are so very tender, that they seem to be of a medullary substance, whilst the *cornea*, though reputed to belong to the coat of the nerve, is not like the coats of other nerves easily sensible of the least sharpness in the body that touches it, nor of the great cold to which it is frequently exposed in frosty weather. *Why* besides the muscles, that manifestly draw the eye this way and that way as a man pleases; there is in the eye itself another muscular like action, whereby the bulb of the eye has its figure somewhat altered, being, as occasion requires, sometimes made a little oblong, and sometimes a little flatter; *why* the crystalline humour is seated just at such a distance from the *cornea* on one side, and from the *retina* on the other, but nearer the former, which is also somewhat protuberant; *why* the pupil, or hole in the *uvea*, is round, and not of any other figure; as (for special reasons) it is in horses, kine, cats, and divers other animals; *why* the pupil in its best and natural state is pretty near of such a determinate compass in the same person, and yet makes sometimes a wider and sometimes a narrower circle, but this within certain limits of dilatation and constriction, and only as occasion requires, the variation not naturally exceeding those bounds, nor much out-lasting the occasion of it.

To these and many other such questions that may reasonably be proposed, he will not be able to give the most satisfactory answers they are capable of, that is not well acquainted, if not with a natural light, but at least *both* with the laws of the refractions, and reflexions of light, according to the bodies it meets with in its way; *and* with the properties of several figures in bodies, which qualify them to refract, or reflect the light, after very differing manners, as is apparent in the distinct (and some of them strange) properties, that spherical, elliptical, parabolical, and hyperbolical surfaces have, to modify the beams of light, that falling on them, rebound from them, or pass beyond them. So that if I mistake not, writers of dioptricks, such as *Scheiner* and *Des Cartes*, are as fit to be consulted by him, that would know the unobvious uses of several parts of the eye, as *Galen* and *Vesalius*, &c.

* * * AND indeed the whole eye being designed for an instrument of sight, the fitness of its parts to perform the functions it was intended for, will be best discerned and highliest valued by those that can discover, *how* the transparency and differing refractive powers of the humours and the *cornea*, *how* the opacity of other parts of the eye, and especially *how* the situation and anomalous figuration of the anterior and posterior surface of the crystalline humour, and *how* the motions which the *ligamentum ciliare* may give it; to mention now no other adjuvant causes, concur to take in as many rays of light, as conveniently can be let in, and made convergent; and to refract and dispose of all of them respectively after the best manner wherein they can be ordered, to make a brisk impression upon the due parts of the *retina*, and paint there an image of the object, both *vivid*, and as *like* it, as the nature of things will permit.

THE eye is, by the modern masters of opticks, fitly compared to a darkened room, and by some of them to a telescope, or perspective glass, that receives from without by the beams of light, that enter it at one hole, left purposely open to let them in, the umbratile pictures of external things. I have often employed such a darkened room to make optical experiments and observations, and have endeavoured by the help of glasses fitly figured and placed, to make moveable instruments to answer

thoſe ends, and yet ſmall enough to be carried in one's pocket. But all that I have hitherto ſeen are more inferior to the natural eye in point of excellency, than the greateſt of them exceeds it in bulk. And even thoſe things in the eye, that are looked upon by many as little uſeful, are really both neceſſary to ſight itſelf, and very uſeful to make it more compleat. For the aqueous humour, that is deſpiſed by ſome as an inſipid and worthleſs liquor, does beſides other good offices to the eye, ſupport the *uvea*, that it may hang freely between the cornea and the cryſtalline humour, and keep the *cornea* duly moiſtened and plumped up as it ought to be, to make the refraction required to diſtinct viſion, as may appear, when being by any miſchance let out, the *uvea* preſently ſubſides, and the ſight is depraved. And it is remarkable, that though nature regenerate neither of the other humours of the eye, yet the aqueous, if the wound be cloſed up, will in no long time be ſupplied by her, eſpecially if good remedies be employed, inſomuch that I have ſeen the eye of a gooſe, out of which we had purpoſely ſqueezed the aqueous humour, upon the application of an excellent balſam to the hurt, in the ſhort ſpace of two hours ſo cloſed and plumped up, that it looked like the other that was ſound. To this I ſhall add, that not only all the parts of the eye have their uſes, but there is in the eye ſomething that is not a part of it, and yet is not only uſeful, but neceſſary to viſion. This is it, which is called the pupil, or apple of the eye, which though it have a name, and be thought to have a colour, as being deeply black, yet is really, as is confeſſed, but a circular hole, whence no beams of light are reflected to the eye, as there are from the reſt of the tunicle it belongs to, which makes that part of the *uvea* or *iris* appear black.

THIS *uvea*, that hangs freely in the aqueous humour, does by its opacity ſerve for an internal curtain to cover as much as is requiſite of the cryſtalline humour, and fence it from too much light. And whereas in our teleſcopes, whoſe fabrick this age glories in, it is oftentimes requiſite to let in more or leſs light, as the object is lucid or illuſtrated, and according to its diſtance, and perhaps other circumſtances, which oblige us to open the tube, and change the aperture for a wider or a narrower: nature has provided for the eye far more commodiouſly, ſince the fibres of the *uvea* contracts or dilate the pupil according to the exigency of occaſions, and this not only in a trice, and without our pains, but without ſo much as our intending to change the aperture, or even knowing that it does change. So that when too much light begins to break in upon the eye, that very light preſently occaſions the contracting of the pupil to exclude the exceſs of it. And when the object is but dim, or faintly illuſtrated, the pupil is much enlarged, to let in greater number of the beams of light; ſo that, eſpecially in young perſons, the pupil does upon very ſlight occaſions, and very often, vary its extent, as may be eaſily ſeen by what Monſieur *Des Cartes* judiciouſly obſerves, that if a *boy* be bid to look upon an enlightened window, and then to turn his eyes to ſome dark corner of the room, he that heedfully looks upon his eyes, ſhall ſee them upon the firſt mentioned occaſion contract the pupil notably, and on the ſecond, manifeſtly expand it, which I could eaſily confirm by auxiliary experiments, if it were proper to enlarge. But I ſhall rather obſerve, that a juſt breadth of the pupil does far more conduce to the compleatneſs of viſion, than moſt men are aware of. For if the *uvea* be *conſtantly* contracted a little too much, that diſeaſe is produced, that oculiſts call the conſtriction of the pupil: and on the other ſide, if the hole or aperture be *conſtantly* a little too wide, there follows an oppoſite diſeaſe, which they name *dilatatio pupillæ*, by which the ſight is much dimmed and impaired, as is well known to oculiſts and phyſicians. And indeed the neceſſity, or great uſefulneſs of ſeveral parts of the eye, may ſometimes

times be better manifeſted by diſtempers, that deprave them, than by the knife of a ſkilful anatomiſt. I have known a perſon, that after ſome accidents, that frequently enough recurred, was wont, for a conſiderable time, to ſee in objects other colours than naturally belong to them. And I lived in an houſe with another conſiderable perſon, whoſe eyes by a violent concuſſion of the head were brought to ſuch a tenderneſs of ſenſe and change of diſpoſition, that not only the light was very dazzling and offenſive to them, but for many days ſome ſorts of objects appeared adorned with divers, and thoſe too very vivid colours, of which other ſpectators could ſee none. And a famous writer related to me, that at the beginning of a dangerous fever, that he fell into, the bands and other linen of thoſe perſons that came near him, ſeemed to him beautified with the colours of the rainbow.

I REMEMBER a young gentlewoman, that by having her eyes, without any ſenſible defluxion or inflammation, diſtended, though uniformly, much beyond their natural dimenſions, was ſo incommodated, that though ſhe could ſee well the objects that were placed juſt before her, yet ſhe could not turn her eyes this way or that way to look on them; ſo that when ſhe read in a book, ſhe was fain to be perpertually moving it, to bring the words ſucceſſively right over-againſt the pupils of her eyes.

A VERY ſkilful oculiſt gave me an account of a patient of his, a very learned man, who ſaw objects double, which was very uneaſy and ſometimes dangerous to him, eſpecially becauſe in walking he ſometimes would run againſt a tree, or ſome other hard body, thinking that to be the illuſory one that was indeed the true one. Which diſtemper ſeemed to proceed from ſome inconvenient change in the ſituation and diſtance of the internal parts of the eye, which I the rather gueſs, becauſe another phyſician brought me the caſe of a patient of his, who upon a defluxion had ſome parts of his eye ſo ſwelled and changed, that he ſaw objects double: and yet this man was in no long time cured by phyſick, as was alſo (but more ſlowly) the learned man lately mentioned. And we may obſerve, that the unfit poſture of the eye, or even the improper motion of the viſive ſpirits, or of the fibres of the *retina*, or the optick nerve, may occaſion, as long as the cauſes laſt the ſeeing of two objects inſtead of one. For that *phænomenon* may be eaſily produced by obliquating the eye with one's finger, and is not ſeldom one of the effects that accompanies the irregular motions produced in the animal ſpirits and brain by drunkenneſs. It were eaſy to add inſtances; but I ſhall rather take notice, that the diſtempers of the eye may not only manifeſt the uſefulneſs of the parts they affect, but ſometimes make diſcoveries of ſome parts that are not wont to appear upon diſſection, though dextrouſly made. For though the tunicle, which ſome call *adnata*, and others *conjunctiva*, ſeem to be a very white and uniform ſubſtance in a dead eye, and even in a living one, yet in great *ophthalmias*, or inflammations of the eye, blood-veſſels extremely ſmall, and on that account uſually latent, not only ſhow themſelves manifeſtly, but in ſuch numbers, as make the *adnata* look rather red than white. * * * *

To illuſtrate and confirm what I come from ſaying, I ſhall add (what I may perhaps have elſewhere mentioned) that there is a familiar animal, (*viz.* a white rabbit, whoſe eye being dextrouſly taken out, may help us to conceive how well the eye, as ſmall and as every way moveable as we ſee it, is framed to do the offices and many more of a darkened room. For when the eye of the little beaſt we ſpeak of was neatly taken out, and, after the optick nerve had been ſmoothly cut cloſe to the *ſclerotica*, was held between a competent light and the ſpectator, it was pleaſant to thoſe to whom I ſhowed the experiment, to ſee how prettily the neighbouring objects were

painted at the bottom of the eye, whose *sclerotis* (as being in this sort of animals transparent) did not hinder the pictures that were made on the inside of it, from being seen by those that looked on the outside. And particularly it was delightful to see the flame of a well snuffed candle held in a convenient posture, and at a due distance from the rabbit's eye and that of the spectator vividly painted upon that region, where the optick nerve enters the bulb of the eye. And indeed it deserves admiration, that so small an optical instrument as a human eye, should so far exceed a great darkened room, *not only* by its mobility every way, which makes it, upon the least change of posture, to exhibit in the twinkling of an eye, a new sense of objects, perhaps very numerous and various, and some of them unequally but yet exceeding remote; *but* in the minuteness of some works framed by the help of it, and in the distance at which objects can be represented in it. This exquisiteness of sight does in *some* mens eyes far exceed what is to be found in the *generality* of men. *Cicero* tells us of one that wrote so small a hand, that he shut up *Homer*'s Iliads, and that written upon a sort of parchment, within the narrow bounds of a nut-shell, (which relation hath since given rise to a proverbial speech.) And not here to mention the strangely minute and yet curiously framed bodies that I have seen myself, we have from unquestionable authority such accounts of things framed or written in our age, by the help of a stupendious acuteness of sight, that we need not be amazed at what is recorded of one *Myrmecides*, who, when *Rome* flourished, was famous for having made a chariot so small, that a fly framed of the same matter, could cover it with her wings; and a ship that a bee could hide with her's: it is pity we have lost the memoirs of the excellent *Marcus Varro*, about rarities of this kind. But one thing is preserved, which makes very much for my present purpose, namely, that one *Strabo*, that lived in the times of the *Punick* war, was endowed with so excellent a sight, that he was used from *Lilybæum*, a *Sicilian* promontory, to see the *Carthaginian* fleet, when it sailed out of the harbour (of *Carthage*) and that so distinctly as to be able to tell the number of the ships: nay, he adds, that the same person could well see a hundred and five and thirty thousand faces. And it is the more credible, that here and there one man should be able to see objects at an extraordinary distance, if that be true, which is delivered by several writers concerning the sharp-sightedness of the great nation of the *Tartars*: on which occasion I remember, that the chief physician of the emperor of *Russia*, having visited me in his passage from his master's court to *Paris*, told me, (among other remarkable things) that frequently when the *Russian* soldiers go out upon parties, they are careful to take along with them a *Tartar* or two, because without such an assistance, the *Tartars* would see the *Moscovites*, before these could discover the *Tartars*.

Vid. Plin. H. N. lib. 7. cap. 21.

THE eye, which we have hitherto discoursed of, is a part manifestly organical, and generally looked upon as being curiously framed. And therefore since at the beginning of this article, I promise you, that in it I would make reflections on two parts of the body, I think it not unfit, that the other part which remains yet to be mentioned, should be such a one, that the excellency of its fabrick is not at all obvious, for which reason till of late it has been, if not with little diligence, at least with little exactness, discovered by physicians and anatomists. And I shall the rather subjoin something about the brain, to what has been lately observed about the eye, because the main part of this organ, the optick nerve, does itself, like other nerves, proceed from the brain.

I SCRUPLE not then to say, that there is one part of the human body, the brain, which, when we comprise under it (as we may) the *cerebellum* and *medulla oblongata*, and compare its soft consistence and the structure that its excellent functions and uses argue

argue it to have, challenged a peculiar mention and regard, and on that account a place in this article. For though the ſoftneſs of the brain make it unfit to be diſſected like muſcles and other firmer parts of the body, whence anatomiſts tell us but of two main parts diſtinguiſhable in its ſubſtance, namely the white and the aſh-coloured, or as ſome call it, the cortical and the cinereal, for the four ſinuſes of the brain are not proper and ſubſtantial parts, but cavities (opening into one another) and receptacles of tranſient fluids; *yet* there muſt be in the brain and its *appendix* the *cerebellum*, far more of mechaniſm than is obvious to a vulgar eye, or even to that of a diſſector. For though this ſeemingly rude lump of ſoft matter does for colour and conſiſtence look almoſt like ſo much cuſtard; yet there are ſtrange things performed partly in it, and partly by the animal ſpirits that it produces, and ſends, through the nerves that proceed from it, to other parts of the body, that we may rationally conceive that its ſtructure is not more difficult to be *diſcerned* than worthy to be *admired*. For *firſt*, the brain taken in the large and popular acception of that name, is by philoſophers held to be the ſeat of what they call *common ſenſe*: becauſe the nerves, that terminate at one end in the organs of particular ſenſes, as the eye, the ear, *&c.* do at their other extremes, terminate, and as it were loſe themſelves in the brain, which by this means becomes the rendezvous (as it were) of the ſeveral ſenſories, whereto theſe ſinews reach, and make it the ſeat of that faculty, which *both* diſcerns thoſe objects of ſenſe that are called common, becauſe they are diſcoverable by ſeveral ſenſories, as magnitude, figure, motion, *&c.* *and* diſtinguiſhes the proper objects of one particular ſenſe from that of another, as light from ſound, and heat from taſte. The brain alſo (*ſecondly*) is the ſeat of that other faculty of the corporeal ſoul, that we are wont to call *imagination*, becauſe it exhibits the images as it were of ſenſible things, which are variouſly contracted, enlarged, divided, compounded, or otherwiſe notably altered by this faculty, which often dreſſes up ſuch a large variety of corporeal *ideas* and fantaſms, and both ranges them and makes them ſucceed one another in ſuch manners, as makes the fancy a moſt ſtrange and many times oddly furniſhed *ſcene*, incomparably ſurpaſſing for variety and extravagance, all the machines deviſed for theatres, operas, and maſks, as may particularly appear in the wild ravings of maniacal and hypochondriacal mad-men, and oftentimes in the dreams of ſound men, but much more in thoſe whoſe brains are heated and agitated by fevers.

THAT (*thirdly*) the brain is that part of a man, wherein the human mind or rational ſoul does peculiarly reſide, and exerciſe its power; is the moſt received opinion among philoſophers, phyſicians, and divines too. And the *Carteſians* among the moderns confine the ſeat of the immaterial part of man, to a determinate and but ſmall portion of the brain, *viz.* the *conarium* or *glandula pinealis*, which yet, according to them, has a great connexion with the other more conſiderable parts of the brain and cerebellum. I need not enlarge upon this great prerogative of the brain, that it is the manſion of ſo noble and excellent a reſident, ſince ſuch ſpeculations would require far more time than I can ſpare; and ſince alſo the knowledge that the brain, or ſome part of it, is qualified to be fit inſtrument for the exerciſe of the faculties and functions of ſo noble and excellent a being as the human mind, may perſuade a conſidering man, that it muſt have an excellent ſtructure or organization.

In the fourth place, that the brain is likewiſe agreed upon by moſt of the moderns, as well as many of the ancients, to be the workhouſe wherein and whereby the animal ſpirits, that ſerve for ſenſe and motion, are continually by filtration, exaltation, or otherwiſe, elaborated or produced.

Fifthly,

Fifthly, It is likewiſe the received opinion of naturaliſts and phyſicians, that the brain, and, as many hold, one part or region of it is the ſeat of memory, and indeed I have known perſons eminent for parts, whereof one by a fall from a horſe, that ſhook his brain, did in a trice loſe the memory of what had juſt before happened to him, and did not ſo much as know his own mother, who came to ſuccour him, though otherwiſe he had his ſenſes and his ſpeech as free as before, and the other perſon, though more than ordinarily free from tranſports of any paſſion, did in a few minutes by (as far as could be judged) a bare invaſion of that part of the brain where memory chiefly reſides, forget the very names of her near relations when mentioned to her, and of domeſticks when I brought them to her; and though ſhe talked good ſenſe to me of ſeveral things, yet ſhe did not, that I could perceive, make uſe of her memory, which but ſome minutes before I had at parting from her, left very ſound and good. But whatever were the cauſe of theſe accidents, memory ſeems to be a faculty wonderful, and whereof the modus is ſo difficult to conceive, that if experience did not convince us of it, and the inſtances of it were leſs familiar to us, I am perſuaded, that many conſiderate men would think it impoſſible or inconceivable, that there ſhould be ſo unaccountable a corporeal faculty. If we look upon a learned man that is ſomewhat aged, and conſider, that being a linguiſt, he muſt remember I know not how many thouſand diſtinct words, many of which, eſpecially nouns and verbs, are each of them much varied by differing terminations and accents; when I conſider the ſame perſon as a philoſopher and a mathematician, an anatomiſt, a chemiſt, and perhaps ſo general a ſcholar as to be verſed in ſeveral other diſciplines, and when I conſider the ſame perſon as having lived ſixty years in the world, and during that long tract of time, ſeen and heard, and read and ſpoken, and done and ſuffered a vaſt multitude of things; when I ſay, I conſider ſuch things as theſe, I cannot but be amazed how it is poſſible, that in ſo ſmall a portion of matter as the memory is ſeated in, there ſhould be ſo many thouſands or myriads of diſtinct traces, footſteps, impreſſions, or whatever you pleaſe to call them, lie not only unconfounded, but ſo diſtinct, that at the bare will and pleaſure of the learned man, we ſpeak of, any of this vaſt multitude of exceedingly various things, will, as it were, ſtart up and manifeſtly appear, and if it were a hiſtory, or matter of fact, will be preſented to the view of the mind with the ſeveral circumſtances of time, place, colour, and other circumſtances that then accompanied it, and that in the right order they firſt occurred in, and thereby renew an idea like that which was, perhaps, many years before produced. Theſe reflections, though they be but a part of divers that may be made to the ſame purpoſe, may, I preſume, ſerve to perſuade us, that there muſt be a moſt exquiſite and indeed an amazing ſtructure in a ſoft body, that in a little room can afford diſtinct traces or cells as it were to ſo vaſt a multitude of things as are crouded into and yet commodiouſly lodged in a portion of the brain, and that ſo durably, that after forty or fifty years they may be at pleaſure brought to appear before the mind, or when by ſome accident, as by a book, or a dream, they are excited, the mind is made ſenſible, that the things repreſented were formerly at ſuch a time committed to the memory.

IN the ſixth place, it is in the brain, that the organs of the particular external ſenſes of ſeeing, hearing, *&c.* have their general rendezvous, and if Mr. *Des Cartes* and thoſe phyſicians and anatomiſts that follow him be not miſtaken (for I ſpeak but conditionally) the reports, that all the differing ſenſories bring to the mind, are made in a part of the brain, *viz.* the conarium, or glandula pinealis, that in reſpect to the reſt of the brain, is inconſiderable for bulk. But not to examine this new opinion, ſince in the brain, or ſome part of it, the actions of all the outward objects upon

upon our organs of ſenſes are, if thoſe actions be vigorous enough, diſtinctly received, the brain muſt be capable of being affected in almoſt innumerable different manners. For to omit the manifold actions of the other three ſenſes, it is plain, that the organ of hearing tranſmits a ſtrange multitude of differing motions, that produce ſo many ſounds; for beſides the whiſtling of winds, the claps of thunder, and other noiſes, that man contributes not to excite, and the many differing ſounds that we owe to muſick vocal and inſtrumental, there is a kind of ſounds that ſeldom uſes to be reflected on, which in my opinion deſerves our wonder, both for their multitude and their variety. For it may juſtly ſeem ſtrange to him that conſiders it, that that particular kind of ſounds, that when they proceed from men are called voices, ſhould be ſo very different, that notwithſtanding the multitude of perſons, which a man, that has occaſion to have much converſation in the world, is wont to exchange words with, there is ſcarce ever any one, that he cannot by his voice diſtinguiſh from every other that he has held diſcourſe with, and this though the ſame party ſpeaks ſometimes louder, ſometimes lower, ſometimes faſter, ſometimes ſlower, &c. And it is not a little ſtrange, that with very few exceptions, if any, one may very well diſtinguſh the voice, whether the perſon that he hears, but does not ſee, be a man or a woman, notwithſtanding the almoſt numberleſs differing voices that each of the ſexes affords. Nay there are many that can readily diſtinguiſh perſons that they are well acquainted with, but do not ſee, even by ſuch ſounds as they do not form by their vocal organs, as by the noiſes they make when they walk in a room or knock at the door. Nay there are ſome watermen that will know their acquaintances in a dark night, merely by the noiſe made by their oars ſtriking on the water, of which I ſomewhere mention inſtances.

* * * SINCE the *medulla oblongata*, that is ſeated within the ſkull, is one of the three great parts that belong to the brain, and is the common root of the nerves that miniſter to ſenſe; and ſince the *ſpinalis medulla* (or as ſome call it, *dorſalis*) is looked upon but as a continuation of the *medulla oblongata* newly mentioned, and reaching thence all along the cavity of the ſpine, whence at ſo many perforations curiouſly made by nature, part on one ſide, and part on the other, it emits thirty pair of nerves, that convey motion to various parts of the body; ſince, I ſay, theſe things are ſo, we cannot think it ſtrange, that our anatomiſts ſhould judge the brain to be the principal ſource of motion, or as learned men are wont to expreſs it, the ſeat of the locomotive faculty.

Now this being ſuppoſed, I think it may much and juſtly conduce to make us judge the brain taken in a lax ſenſe to be a wonderful part, even without conſidering what ought to be held about the opinion of many learned anatomiſts and phyſicians of our times, that make the ſinews ſubſervient to the nutrition, as well as motion, of divers parts of the body. For the locomotive power alone may ſuffice to challenge our wonder; ſince philoſophers themſelves may juſtly admire, that ſuch minute and inviſible corpuſcles as the animal ſpirits, and thoſe too, in no greater numbers than can be furniſhed by and contained in the brain and inconſpicuous cavities of the nerves, even ſuppoſing thoſe parts aſſiſted by ſome ſmall portion of liquor to make exploſions, ſhould be able to move all the outward limbs and internal muſcles of the body, in ſuch various manners, and with ſo much agility and ſtrength, as we ſee they do in divers luſty and active men, and more particularly in ſome dancers on the ropes here among us, who themſelves are far exceeded in nimbleneſs and ſprightlineſs by ſeveral of the ſame profeſſion in the *Eaſt-Indies*, as not only credible authors inform us in their printed voyages, but moſt credible eye-witneſſes of our own nation, now alive, have aſſured me.

* * * We

* * * WE ſhould be far more ſenſible than we commonly are, and make a juſter eſtimate than we are wont to do, of the great wiſdom and artifice, and of the beneficence that are exerciſed in the fabrick and contrivance of the numerous and various parts of a human body; if we were ſufficiently aware of, and did duly conſider what things both for number and quality are requiſite to make this or that part as well qualified *to* maintain itſelf, *to* perform all its own functions, *to* prevent inconveniencies or ſurmount them, and *to* be ſerviceable to the body it concurs to conſtitute, as really it is. Thus, for inſtance, a bone ſeems to moſt men to be a very plain and inartificial thing, ſcarce ſuperior to a wooden leg of an ordinary ſtool or chair, which as well as the bone is endowed with ſolidity and a determinate ſhape. But he will have more advantageous thoughts of a bone, that conſiders three or four things that belong to it; whereof the *firſt* is *the ſhape* of it, which a ſkilful inſpection will ſhow to be far more artificial than at firſt ſight appears; in regard of the various kinds and degrees of protuberances and depreſſions, ſuch as are called *apophyſes*, *epiphyſes*, &c. with reference to the ſeveral muſcles that have their heads, or their tendons, faſtened to it, in the moſt advantageous manner that mechanical ſkill could direct. And to the ſhape may be referred the length and deſigned uniformity in the thickneſs of the bone. It is worth conſidering (in the ſecond place) *that* theſe bones in children and youths muſt continually grow for many years, and that in all their dimenſions, and ſo likewiſe muſt the cavities that lodge the marrow; to which conſideration muſt be added, that the heat of the blood and other parts of the body continually tends to diſſipate the matter of the bones, and by driving off the more volatile parts renders them dry and brittle; ſo that it is neceſſary to prevent this miſchief, that nature provide them with perpetual ſupplies of aliment, and that oily or unctuous enough; that the bone may be kept moiſt by an alimental juice, ſuitable in its qualities to the needs of the part; and as this aliment muſt be conveyed by certain channels, as arteries and veins, ſo theſe muſt be able to penetrate, though oftentimes latently, the body of the bone as ſolid and hard ſoever as it is. For if the bone were otherwiſe figured, and were not furniſhed with ſuch veſſels as uſually are not ſeen in it, and by their means with a conſtant ſupply of juices proportionable to its nature and needs; a bone would not be able to perform its functions *well* and *long*, but would be ſoon ſpoiled or rendered inſufficient for its deſigned uſes. Divers other parts of the body may afford better inſtances to our purpoſe than bones, whoſe mention I pitched upon, not becauſe I think them the *moſt*, but becauſe they are looked on as ſome of the *leaſt* elaborated parts of the body. And indeed the provident author of nature has deſtined moſt of the parts to ſuch different functions and uſes, that if he had not likewiſe with admirable foreſight obviated the impediments and inconveniencies that would otherwiſe attend their firſt formation, and ſettled a courſe to give them continually freſh ſupplies to maintain them in their natural ſtate, they would quickly fall into decay, and loſe the conſtitution neceſſary to their being ſound and uſeful.

Article I. THE parts of a human body ſeparately conſidered, are, as we have lately ſeen, ſo curiouſly framed, as to deſerve to paſs for excellent pieces of workmanſhip. But when in the body, that is made up of them, they are conſidered in their entire ſyſtem, and as they are by a due ſituation and mutual connexion, aſſociated, or rather united into one great organical body, they appear in this condition with great advantage: and the human engine conſiſting of ſo many differing parts moſt aptly put together, acquires by this ſtate of entireneſs, a new title to our eſteem and wonder. So that we may apply to the microcoſm, that paſſage about the macrocoſm, wherein the ſacred hiſtorian relates, that God ſaid of the particular works of the ſix days creation, that

he saw that this and that work was good; but when he came to survey the aggregate of them in all their entire system, the historian adds with an *ecce*, to excite our attention, that *all that he had made was very good* *. * Gen. i. 31.

THAT the human body is greatly advantaged by the skilful association of its parts, would manifestly enough appear, if we had leisure to display divers properties that result from it, or depend on it, such as are, 1. The connections of these parts. 2. Their situation. 3. Their subordination. 4. Their mutual subserviency. 5. The strength and agility springing thence. 6. The symmetry, and comeliness or beauty observeable in the system of them. And 7thly (and lastly) the strange consent of some parts in reference to some others. But to discourse of each of these as it deserves, would too much exceed the bounds of our fourth article, as well as of the time allowed me to dispatch it in, and therefore I shall only cursorily pass over them again.

THE strict connection of such a multitude of parts differing in consistence, bulk, figure, situation, functions, *&c.* as, in a little room, make up the human body, may justly, to him that considers it, appear the effect of a wonderful skill, and he that in a curious dissection shall observe *how* aptly the ligaments are placed where they are necessary to fasten the parts together, *how* skilfully they are shaped for their respective offices, and how justly their strength is proportional to the works they are to perform, will think, that the wise opificer did not only make a full provision for the uses to which he destined these several ligaments, but was also careful to husband the matter he made use of to frame the body, so as no more of it than was necessary should be employed about any of its parts. And it is worth observation, that divers of the tendons of the muscles, which in some parts serve to fasten, as well as the ligaments more properly so called, have a peculiar texture that makes them wonderfully strong, in comparison of our factitious cords of the same bigness, as may be seen in the stalls of butchers, where oftentimes the body of a fat hog, or an ox, is kept suspended by the strength of natural cords, that one would think far too slender to support so great a weight. And this strength will further appear, when we come to the fifth number. Numb. 1.

THE several parts thus firmly joined to each other, are not yet confusedly bound together without order, as in a bundle, but are all of them so disposed of, that each of them has obtained the most convenient situation it could be placed in; which advantage is oftentimes much assisted by the shape or figure of the part, which makes it capable of being placed there, without prejudicing any of the contiguous parts. He that has observed the several parts of a human eye, will easily be convinced of how great moment the determinate situation of every one of them is to the compleatness of the organ; since even a small change in their situation may deprave or very much impair the act of vision. The situation of the sphincters, (or muscles that contract themselves circularly towards the centre) this determinate situation, I say, of the sphincters that belong to the *intestinum rectum*, and the urinary bladder is so fit and so necessary, that without it, the animal would be almost perpetually annoyed with the involuntary, nasty, and offensive discharge of his own excrements; which by means of these sphincters so appositely seated, he can (for a great while) retain or discharge at discretion. The valves of the heart are not only admirably figured for the functions they are to perform, but they are no less skilfully situated for the reception and discharge of the blood, that is to pass through the heart, and for the transmission of it from the veins into the arteries, and the return of it into these, and so for the maintenance of a circulation so necessary to life, that the stopping of it but for two or three minutes, does oftentimes in a trice put an end to it. Numb. 2.

And though the muſcles do not to vulgar ſpectators, ſeem to be very curiouſly placed, yet *when* they are, by a ſkilful diſſector, well raiſed, and the ſhape, bigneſs, ſtrength, *&c.* of particular muſcles, and eſpecially *when* their originations and inſertions (which are things referable to ſituation) are heedfully conſidered, and compared with their ſituation in reference to the bones and the different parts of the bones, (as knobs, cavities, edges, *&c.*) they are ſeverally faſtened to: and further, *when* theſe alſo ſhall come to be compared with the rules of mechanicks, and eſpecially thoſe that deliver the nature and properties of the three ſeveral kinds of levers: when I ſay, theſe collations ſhall be duly made, you will find cauſe to admire the excellent mechaniſm that is employed in ſo advantageouſly ſeating ſo many muſcles differing in bigneſs, ſtrength, ſhape, *&c.* as are to be found in the muſcular parts of a human engine. * * *

THE particulars mentioned in the ſeven foregoing articles, may ſerve to give you a juſt admiration of the divine architect of ſo curious a fabrick as an human body, conſidered in its entire ſyſtem, appears to be. But yet I muſt own to you, that there are divers other things as fit perhaps as thoſe lately diſcourſed of, to juſtify, if not alſo to heighten, this admiration. That you may not think this aſſertion altogether groundleſs, I ſhall here curſorily touch upon three or four things that now come into my thoughts. And *firſt*, it is remarkable, that, where it could be done without prejudice to higher ends, the wiſe and beneficent author of human nature has made ſome very noble and uſeful parts of the body *double*. Thus though a man may not only *live*, but *ſee* well enough with one eye, yet God has furniſhed him with two eyes, both to relieve one another; and that in caſe one ſhould be made uſeleſs, by ſickneſs or outward accidents, the other may ſuffice for viſion: as many who have loſt one of their eyes, daily find to their great comfort. And in like manner, and upon the ſame accounts, man is furniſhed with two ears, and two hands, each of which may, for a need, perform moſt of the functions of both.

2. IT deſerves a grateful reflection, though little or none be wont to be made upon it, that of the ſmall number of features and colours, that ſuffice to make up the face of a man, providence has made ſo many combinations, and hath thereby ſo diverſified the faces of men and women, that of about eight hundred millions of human perſons, which, by the likelieſt eſtimate I can make, mankind conſiſts of; it is very hard, and ſcarce poſſible, to find two, whoſe faces are not, in ſomething or other, unlike enough to make the perſons they belong to diſtinguiſhable. For if it were not for this difference, what miſtakes and confuſions do you think, the want of it would occaſion among men, and in human affairs?

3. THE like reflection may be made upon the innumerable differing combinations, that ſo diverſify a few notes, or ſounds into the voices of ſome hundred of millions of men, women, and children; that it is very rare to meet with two perſons, that are not eaſily diſtinguiſhable by their voices, whoſe too great reſemblance would beget ſtrange confuſions. On this occaſion, I remember that I was well acquainted with an illuſtrious family, wherein two ſiſters, beſides a great reſemblance in features, were ſo much alike in their voices, that when I took notice to their mother how difficult I found it not to miſtake one for the other, ſhe told me, that ſhe herſelf was not exempt from being puzzled by ſo near a reſemblance; ſo that ſometimes when they were behind her, ſhe was obliged to turn her face towards them, that ſhe might diſcern by her eyes (what her ears could not diſcover to her) which of her two daughters were the ſpeaker.

THE mention I come from making of voices and words, forbids me ſilently to paſs over a conſideration of the chief inſtrument that frames them, I mean the tongue.

For

For this little part is ſo ſkilfully contrived, that it ſerves excellently for uſes of very diſtant natures; of which the part that it has in human ſpeech is but one, though indeed a main one. For the tongue is the chief organ of taſting, being inveſted with a ſkin ſpongy and full of little teats, which makes it very fit to imbibe the ſaline or ſapid corpuſcles of taſted bodies, and convey them to the nerves, by whoſe intervention we have diſtinct ſenſations of far more ſapors than we are yet able to give names to. The tongue alſo by its volubility and manifold flexures, diverſified in a trice, as occaſions (perhaps a thouſand in leſs than an hour) may require, does ſerve for a living and ſupple *ſpatula* to turn and roll too and fro the meat in the mouth, to expoſe it to the teeth, and to help it to be afterwards ſwallowed, with a ſalivary *menſtruum* by the throat. But that which engages me to mention it here, is the great and neceſſary uſes it is of in the formation of the voice and articulate ſounds, or words, which, conſidering the variety of languages, are ſo different and numerous, that nature had need to croud into this little organ of ſpeech, a great diverſity of parts, ſuch as, beſides the ſkin above-mentioned, the veins and arteries, and a peculiar ſort of fleſh, and the nerves that it receives from more than one conjugation, ſeveral muſcles that partly belong to that heteroclite bone, the *os hyoides*, and four muſcles of its own, to give it that great variety of motions and flexures, that are requiſite to the performance of its manifold functions, and eſpecially to the ſpeaking of ſeveral languages.

SOMETHING like what has been conſidered about the diſſimilitude of mens voices, may be alſo obſerved in the diſtinguiſhableneſs of mens hand-writings, notwithſtanding the paucity of the letters of the alphabet, and of the lineaments neceſſary for writing, and the vaſt multitudes of men, women, boys, and girls, that employ pen and ink to expreſs their thoughts. * * *

WHEN I was come thus far, (*viz.* to the conſideration of a living body) ſickneſs and inevitable, as well as diſtracting avocations, that had before interrupted me ſomewhat favourably, fell ſo thick upon me, and reduced my intervals of leiſure to be ſo few, ſo uncertain, and ſo ſhort, that I am not able in the intended remaining part of this diſcourſe, to inſiſt as much (though that be too little) as I have done in that which you have already peruſed. And therefore I hope you will not think it ſtrange or unpardonable, that in the proſecution of my taſk, I do not (as I intended, and as I confeſs the ſubjects deſerve,) enlarge upon every head of diſcourſe that I ſhall mention. For my occaſions permit me at preſent to *do little more than name divers of them*, and oblige me to defer the intended comments and enlargements, till God ſhall pleaſe to vouchſafe me better opportunity to purſue my firſt deſign.

AND that you may not be ſo ſurpriſed to find the following papers ſo incoherent, and the ſeveral bundles or parcels of them ſo very diſproportionate in point of bulk to one another, I muſt beg leave to inform you, that for certain reaſons (that you may eaſily gueſs at) I did not think fit to write all the *ſecond part* of the Chriſtian Virtuoſo in one continued *ſeries* of diſcourſe, without touching upon any other ſubjects of thoſe that remain to be treated of, till I had quite diſpatched thoſe, that, by the laws of method ought to have been firſt finiſhed, and to precede it. So that when the forementioned diſcouragements ſurpriſed and oppreſſed me, I had at my diſpoſal *ſome*, (and but *ſome*) of the many looſe memoirs and ſhort notes, that I had formerly provided as materials to be employed in the *ſecond part* of the above named treatiſe. But coming to ſurvey, and bundle up the ſeveral ſcattered papers I could light upon, that mainly conſiſted of theſe incoherent *memoirs*, I found, that the parcels they would be fit to conſtitute would be exceeding unequal. For *ſome* of the particular heads of diſcourſe had very few notes, or *memoirs* relating to them; whereas to ſome

other heads, I found papers enough to furniſh divers little bundles, (though ſome conſiſting of more and ſome of fewer notes,) fairly enough referable. This put me into ſome perplexity how to diſpoſe of theſe papers. For to ſend them you as they were, would be to trouble you with a *chaos* inſtead of preſenting you with a diſcourſe; and not only diſparage the writer (which were a very ſmall miſchief) but (which is far worſe) injure the ſubject. And on the other ſide, this very nobleneſs and uſefulneſs of the excellent ſubject, that made it deſerve a complete and elaborate diſcourſe, made me ſcruple to let any thoughts periſh, that, though very imperfect, and incoherent, might conduce to illuſtrate or to recommend it. And therefore, *though* I dare not ſuffer my remarks and reaſonings to appear ſo much to their own and the deſign's diſadvantage, as they muſt do, if they ſhould pretend to compoſe an entire body of diſcourſe; *yet* becauſe hereafter, if God permit, the *chaſms* may be filled up; I thought fit, leſt the looſe notes wherein my thoughts had been at different times ſet down, ſhould be loſt, (as many others had been) for want of being bundled up together, I did, I ſay, think it not amiſs they ſhould accompany the firſt, or initial papers of ſeveral ſections or ſub-ſections, that I had already begun, and intended that theſe looſe ones ſhould join with others to enlarge. And becauſe I had not time to ſelect carefully, and range orderly all thoſe that lay confuſed in a heap of theological notes, and memoirs about ſeveral ſubjects, I choſe to take in, for the preſent, rather ſeveral that perhaps did not in ſtrictneſs belong to the *Chriſtian Virtuoſo*, than throw by any that did. Upon which account ſeveral, that formerly were drawn out of ſome other long neglected diſcourſes were retained, that among thoſe, that ſhould be found coincident, or very near of kin, the fitteſt might be choſen, and others, that are capable of being made tolerably fit, by due connections and retrenchments, may be made ſome uſe of.

To conclude, you will find, that the little collections or bundles of notes laid together for the ſeveral ſections and ſub-ſections for the remaining part of this tract, and are for the moſt part lodged in diſtinct paper-caſes, do conſiſt, moſt of them of an introductory paper or two, and of ſeveral *memoirs* or notes, ſome longer, and ſome ſhorter, that accompany them, in the ſame bundle, to which they appear to appertain. And to theſe I ſubjoin in a diſtinct paper-caſe, a larger, and miſcellaneous collection of particulars, of which thoſe which ſhall be found no way pertinent to the *Chriſtian Virtuoſo*, are to be laid aſide, and the reſt may be referred to the reſpective heads or ſubjects, whereto they ſhall be judged, the moſt properly to belong.

WHAT has been hitherto obſerved about the carcaſe of a dead man, may, I think, ſuffice to ſhow, that even that is a curiouſly framed and excellent engine. But I muſt now add, and endeavour to manifeſt, that it is almoſt incomparably inferior to that excellent, nay matchleſs engine, a living human body. Since whilſt a man is truly and properly ſaid to *live*, many affections belong to his corporeal part, or are performed in it, or by it, that make this *automaton* called his body, much, and very advantageouſly, differing from a mere cadaver. * * *

WE may therefore conſider the wiſdom expreſſed by the author of nature in a living body, by ſuperadding to the particulars formerly mentioned, as belonging to a dead one, ſuch as theſe that follow, *viz.*

1. THE various local motions of a living human body, and its parts, (abſtracting from the difference of ſexes.)

2. THE ſenſations of ſeveral ſorts, both external, as ſight, taſte, *&c.* and internal, as hunger and thirſt, which belong to a living body.

3. THE functions that belong to the ſoul of a man, as he is an animal, as imagination and memory, diſtinct from intellectual operations.

4. THE

4. THE ferments, or principles analogous to them, that are ſuppoſed to be lodged in particular parts.

5. THE chemical operations that nature exerciſes in a living body, eſpecially in the liquors and other fluids, it contains.

6. THE care that is taken for propagation of the *ſpecies*, both *in* deſtinating peculiar parts for that only purpoſe in each ſex; and *in* furniſhing both at fit ſeaſons with venereal appetites, and in giving the mother ἀγοργὴν, and furniſhing her with aliment for the *fœtus*, both in the womb, and whilſt it is to ſuck.

7. THE admirable ſcarce comprehenſible *formation of the fœtus* in the womb, eſpecially when it is very like the parents, and has permanent marks of the mother's longings, or frights, and is ſubject to her's or the father's hereditary diſeaſes in body, or mind.

8. THE inſtincts and other deſignations and inſtitutions appointed, by the great mechaniſt, for the welfare of the animal, in its ſeveral ſtates and circumſtances of life.

* * * * * SUPPOSE one of thoſe *Jeſuits* that firſt carried curious watches into *China*, had been caſt away, with one of them in his pocket, upon one, or other of thoſe many iſlands, that are in that vaſt ocean inhabited by people, though civilized, yet unacquainted with *European* inventions. Though one of the more judicious and ſkilful of them, upon the bare ſuperficial view of the rich materials, fine ſhape, enamellings, and other embelliſhments of the caſe and dial-plate, would preſently conclude, that this ſo fine box was not made by chance, but by ſome ſkilful workman; yet he would by no means have ſo good an opinion of the artificer, as when having opened the caſe, he ſhould ſee ſo many wheels and other parts curiouſly framed and cut, and exquiſitely adapted to one another in ſuch a manner, as to give him a ſtrong ſuſpicion, that this ſmall, but exquiſite engine was deſigned for ſome conſiderable uſes, and made very fit for them. But if, afterwards, another of the fathers, that had eſcaped from the wreck, and been driven aſhore upon a plank, ſhould wind up this watch, whoſe parts before lay moveleſs; and let him ſee how the balance, the wheels, and other parts, conſpired not only to ſhow, and ſtrike the hour of the day, but alſo at ſet times to give an *alarum:* and to ſhow alſo the day of the week and month, the aſpect of the planets, the faces of the moon, the changes of tides, in the place it was made for, and thoſe other ſingular, and uſeful things that we have ſeen capable of being performed by a very curious watch: ſuppoſing, I ſay, the watch wound up, the contemplation of the engine, thus in motion, would give the amazed beholder an incomparably more advantageous *idea* both of the machine and the mechaniſt, that could foreſee, and pre-ordain ſuch various things, and croud into ſo ſmall a room, all the things that are neceſſary, and as many as are ſufficient to produce ſuch various phænomena and uſeful effects. And ſo, he that conſiders the body of a dead animal, wherein the immediate motions, and agents that entertain life, and the vital functions, and wherein perchance they conſiſt, *&c.*

* * * * IN the admirable engine of a human body, beſides the *ſolid* parts, as bones, and the conſiſtent ones, as veſſels, nerves, *&c.* there are a good many *fluids*, ſome manifeſt to the ſight, and others too ſubtil to be diſcovered by it. And though the ſolid, and conſiſtent parts of a lifeleſs human body, that have hitherto been the objects of our reflections, be the moſt conſiderable; yet the fluid parts are ſuch, both for the *quantity* of ſome of them, and the *number*, *variety*, and *uſes* of others, that they are too important to be altogether pretermitted. Theſe fluids may be divided into viſible and inviſible: of the *former* kind, blood, chyle, and other viſible liquors, and theſe of differing ſorts, as *ſerum*, *gaul*, *lympha*, *ſuccus pancreati-*

cus,

tus, &c. And of the *latter* ſort are thoſe ſubtil and active corpuſcles, that make up the unſeen fluids that paſs under the names of vital and of animal ſpirits; whence are derived, both many of the functions neceſſary to life, and alſo thoſe various ſenſations and local motions, that give man, as he is an animal, the chief prerogatives he has above plants, metals, *&c.*

* * * To all that has been ſaid, I ſhall add one thing more, perhaps, of no leſs importance than any of the reſt. For I conſider, that the knife even of the moſt ſkilful and dexterous anatomiſt, eſpecially if he diſſect but dead bodies, can never ſufficiently acquaint us with the curiouſneſs of the contrivance of a human body. For all that anatomy can do, is to manifeſt or diſplay the ſtructure of the *conſiſtent parts*, ſuch as the bones, cartilages, nerves, arteries, veins, *&c.* and expoſe to our ſenſes the *viſible liquors* of the body, ſuch as blood, gall, the concreted juices, urine, *&c.* But it cannot ſhow us either of the two ſorts of inviſible parts, *viz.* the *animal* and other *ſpirits*, and the *ferments*, (or principles analogous to them) that may reaſonably be ſuppoſed to lodge in the ſtomach, kidneys, and other particular parts. And yet the influences and operations of theſe are ſo conſiderable, that I am apt to think, that moſt of the parts of the groſſer body ſeem intended by nature, but as a kind of kitchens to dreſs the aliment, and make its finer parts pure and ſubtil enough to become animal; or if you pleaſe, *hormetick* or impulſive *ſpirits*, fit to actuate the brain and nerves, and thereby to become the grand inſtruments of ſenſe, motion, and imagination. * * *

THE curious works of men have been brought to their perfection ſuch as it is, not by being framed at firſt, according to an original and compleat idea, but by ſeveral helps, additions, and corrections, that the artificers were, from time to time, led to, by the unforeſeen inconveniencies and imperfections that unwelcome experiences did, from time to time, diſcover to them, as needing remedy or ſupply, as may appear by ſeveral of the curiouſeſt productions of human art, and particularly (to omit watches, clocks, *&c.*) in the building of a ſhip fit to make long voyages. For this curious, floating machine was not made at firſt by mere human induſtry, any thing like what it is now come to. But floating veſſels, from troughs or hollowed trees, have by many changes and degrees, corrections and ſupplements, made ſo ſlow a progreſs towards the comparative perfection that is now attained, that many ages have been buſied before naval architecture could be brought to the paſs it is now at: whereas a human body, for inſtance, though an engine incomparably more both compounded and exquiſite, was in the firſt protoplaſt made ſo compleat, becauſe exactly conformable to the original idea of a divine opificer, that in all the ſucceeding ages there has been no need to correct any thing, as being amiſs, or add any thing by way of ſupplement to the omiſſion, or want of any thing belonging to its due perfection.

THAT the rational ſoul, or immaterial mind, is the chief and nobleſt part of man, none, that deſerves that title, will deny. Many heathen philoſophers themſelves looked upon the rational ſoul, as not only a , but, as it were, a part (or as they term it *ἀπόσπασμα*) of God, and others make it to be indeed *the man*, and the human body to be but *the manſion*, or, as they uſually ſpeak, the vehicle of it. And perhaps it were worth conſidering, whether this notion be not favoured by thoſe expreſſions of St. *Peter*, where he ſays to the diſperſed Chriſtians, *I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle*, (which term St. *Paul*, more than once, uſes to ſignify the body) in which paſſage, the word *I* is plainly diſtinguiſhed from the other, as an inhabitant from a manſion. And, within two or three lines after, he employs this expreſſion,

2 Pet. i. 13, 14.

preſſion, conſonant to the firſt, *ſhortly I muſt put off this my tabernacle*; wherein he, again, clearly ſpeaks of the body, he was to leave, as of a *poſſeſſion* belonging to that which was properly *himſelf*.

SINCE, as I more than once advertiſe you, I do not in this diſcourſe pretend to treat of my ſubjects, either abſolutely or fully, but only ſo far forth as ſome inſpection into theſe works of God, tends to give us more numerous and better grounded motives to glorify him for them: I ſhall not, in this place, think myſelf obliged to treat of the rational mind of man, as it is diſtinct from the body, merely like a naturaliſt; but conſider ſome things about it, that may juſtly paſs for peculiar excellencies, that deſerve we ſhould admire and gratefully celebrate for them, *the Father of ſpirits*, as the ſcripture ſtiles the Almighty Creator. Heb. xii. 9.

THE things, that here challenge a particular conſideration, though I can allow them but a brief and tranſient one at preſent, are theſe. 1. The ſpirituality, or immateriality of the human mind. 2. Her cogitative nature. 3. Her rationality. 4. Her freedom of will. 5. Her fitneſs for permanency in a ſeparate ſtate. 6. And her capacity of receiving great improvements, both here and hereafter.

* * * * BUT though as may appear by what has been diſcourſed, we have but an imperfect knowledge of the natures of *bodies*, yet it may be thought, that by reaſon of the cognation betwixt her and them, the rational ſoul may have a better knowledge of the nature of *ſpirits*, ſince they are rational and incorporeal beings, as well as ſhe. But alas! when we come to contemplate the pneumatical world, or ſyſtem, if I may ſo call it, we enter into a new world indeed, that much better deſerves that title, than did *America*, when it was firſt diſcovered by *Columbus*.

AND firſt, the very notion we have of ſpirits in general, is, to me, no ſmall argument how little we really and particularly know of them. For though ſuperficial conſiderers take up with the vulgar definition, that *a ſpirit is an immaterial ſubſtance*, yet that leaves us exceedingly to ſeek, if we aim at ſatisfaction in particular enquiries. For it declares rather what the thing *is not*, than what *it is*; and is as little inſtructive a definition, as it would be to ſay, that *a curve line is not a ſtrait one*, which ſure will never teach us what is an ellipſis, a parabola, an hyperbola, a circle, or a ſpiral line, *&c.* and much leſs acquaint us with the peculiar affections that *Euclid* demonſtrates of circles, and *Archimedes* and *Apollonius* deliver of conick ſections and other curves. Or to give you an example, that will, perhaps, appear yet more appoſite, ſince corporeal and incorporeal are oppoſites and contradictory; a man that knows, that a ſpirit is not a body, may as little know, by virtue of that, what an angel, a dæmon, or any other kind, or order of ſpirits is in particular, as the knowing, that a body is an unſpiritual ſubſtance, or which is all one, is not a ſpirit, teaches him to know the diſtinct or particular natures of the ſun, or a cloud, or of the ſtars, elements, minerals, plants, animals.

* * * THE terms we uſe of moving, perceiving, exciting, enlightning, determining, reſtraining, commanding, *&c.* do not ſuggeſt true notions of the things we would ſignify, being but applications of corporeal actions or qualities, to things of an incorporeal, and ſo of a quite differing nature and condition.

WHEN we aſcribe *power* to God, as that of creating, it is *toto cælo* differing from that which we aſcribe to bodies, and even from that which the human ſoul exerciſes on its own body.

THE knowledge we have of our own ſouls, is but partly by conſciouſneſs or internal ſenſation, the reſt we muſt learn as we can.

WHAT

WHAT the ſoul does in the body, as when we remember, and ſpeak, and bluſh, and ſee, ſhe knows not how ſhe does it, nor ſo much as what inſtruments, or parts are employed in her work.

THE operations of ſpirits upon bodies and vehicles, and much more upon one another, we are in the dark about. * * * *

* * * * WHAT has been, in more than one place, delivered, about the excellency of the human mind, if it do not (as I wiſh it may) prevail with you to employ your ſagacity in the indagation of a ſubject ſo worthy of it, will, at leaſt, I hope, excuſe me, for having inſiſted upon it, perhaps, more than was expected, in a diſcourſe that ought not, and was not intended, to be long. And on this occaſion, I ſhall freely own, that it is not without much trouble, and ſome wonder too, that I obſerve the generality of men, and, which is more, not a few, that are of a philoſophical *genius*, and many that are piouſly diſpoſed, to have ſo little curioſity to enquire into the nature and faculties of their own ſouls; which are things that moſt of them ſupinely neglect, and others, that do, now and then, turn their eyes towards them, judge to be but dark and airy objects, that do leſs deſerve to be ſtudied, than almoſt any thing that buſies the thoughts of learned men. And yet I think, and do not ſcruple to ſay it, that this knowledge, which ſo many neglect and deſpiſe, nay, which the generality of men do, more than any other, faſtidiouſly ſlight, or ſtudiouſly ſhun, is, next the knowledge of its prototype, that which beſt deſerves our ſtudy, and which it moſt concerns us to attain.

IT is not reaſonable to *expect*, that we, who have but an inadequate knowledge of the leaſt of corporeal things, ſhould have an adequate one of incorporeal ones; or to *pretend*, that we ought not to *cultivate* the knowledge of divine things, and immaterial ſubſtances, becauſe we cannot perfectly *underſtand* them; whilſt we are diligent and hopeful cultivators of the ſcience of bodies, which we are very far from perfectly comprehending.

APHORISMS *to* SUB-SECT. 2.

WE know but very little of the nature of our own minds, though, to diſcover that, we need not rove into, much leſs wander beyond the world without us; but only reflectingly take notice of what paſſes within ourſelves; nor need we anatomical knives, or geographical globes or optical teleſcopes or microſcopes, or any other material, or elaborate inſtruments, to inveſtigate and detect what we ſeek for; the human mind being itſelf the ſubject, the object, the faculty, the organ, and the inſtrument, of the knowledge it ſhould attain.

WHEN the *Epicureans* diſpute the beſt againſt the ſpirituality of the rational ſoul, (or mind of man) the more plauſible their arguments are, the leſs they prove what they would evince. For the ſubtilty and acuteneſs they employ, to conclude the ſoul to be corporeal, ſufficiently argue it not to be material; ſince it cannot be conceived, that any way of marſhalling or contexing of mere bodies, how ſmall, and how well ranged ſoever you may fancy them, is capable of producing ſuch ſubtil ratiocinations; whereby they do but eſtabliſh the preheminence they endeavour to oppoſe; and whilſt they ſtrive to degrade themſelves to the condition of beaſts, they do it by arguments that ſhew them to be of a ſuperior order of beings.

THOSE that deſpiſe the conſideration of ſpiritual things, and ſuch as do not ſenſibly affect our eyes, may do well to conſider, *both* of what importance the magnetical effluvia

effluvia (whereof the terreſtrial globe inceſſantly emits numberleſs ſwarms) are, to keep the whole earth itſelf in a due and ſettled poſition: *and* how the winds, though inviſible, are not only of great efficacy and importance in navigation, but have a great intereſt in the temperature and changes of the atmoſphere. To which may be added, the force, that the *effluvia* of a good loadſtone have to move maſſes of iron itſelf; and the vigour, by which the animal ſpirits, or ſubtiler fluids of the body, are able *continually* to move, for many years, the heart, and, *upon occaſion*, with great violence, the limbs.

THE rational ſoul is ineſtimably more noble and valuable than any thing corporeal; not only on the ſcore of its ſpiritual nature and powers of *acting*; but on the account of its immenſe capacity of *receiving*, both knowledge and felicity; when God ſhall vouchſafe them to her.

THE capacity of the rational ſoul is ſo great, and its nature ſo ſublime, and ſo abſtruſe, that as it is an object, it ſurpaſſes its own compréhenſion, as it is a faculty.

THE knowledge and inſpection of a man's own ſelf, eſpecially of his immaterial part or mind, may be more ſerviceable than we are uſually aware of, to natural theology, and even to revealed religion. For, in the very nature of the mind, we may diſcern ſo lively a ſtamp, or impreſs of the divine author of it; that it is not to be wondered at, if the *Carteſian* and divers other philoſophers have thence raiſed themſelves to the notion of a Deity; and found a conviction of his exiſtence: which is ſo fruitful a principle, that it may eaſily lead us to a multitude of other important truths. Beſides, the human ſoul being immaterial, and there being no proof, but a great improbability, that it has been from all eternity; it muſt have had a beginning of exiſtence, which being incorporeal, it cannot have received from any thing that is a body; and therefore muſt have been created by ſome ſpirit. And if that ſpirit be acknowledged to be God, I have what we contend for: and if it be ſaid to be any other ſpirit, which muſt be of an inferior order, it is plain, that there is yet more reaſon to believe it poſſible for God to have produced it. And if God be granted to have the power to create an immaterial being, and that ſo excellent an one as the mind is, why ſhould he be denied the power of producing a ſenſeleſs being; which is ſo ignoble, and ſo far inferior to a rational ſpirit as ſtupid matter is? Moreover, the conſideration of the wonderful union that is made of two beings, of ſuch diſtinct natures, as are the human ſoul and body, into one man, may convince us, that we muſt not reject a myſtery of religion, only becauſe there is nothing like it in *rerum natura*, or that we cannot conceive the *modus* of it.

SECT. II. SUB-SECT. 3.

I HAVE already (more than once) had occaſion to tell you, that the main thing that is aimed at, in the preſent diſcourſe, is to find, by a heedful inſpection into the works of God, juſt motives to admire, to praiſe, and to thank him for them. Upon this ground it will be very fit, that, after what has been ſaid of the human body and mind, looked upon ſeparately, as diſtinct ſubſtances; we proceed to conſider them as God has been pleaſed to unite them, into that heteroclite and ſingular creature, man.

I AM not ignorant, that the generality of men, without excepting thoſe that are addicted to letters, are wont, either totally to overlook, or to paſs by without any great reflection, the union we are ſpeaking of. But if we conſider the matter, atten-

tively, we may clearly discover, that this union, and the laws of it, deserve a far greater, and indeed a very peculiar, regard.

AND for my part, I am of so differing a mind from those who think, that this subject is not worth our attention, that the consideration of the nature and properties of the unmatched union of the body and mind of man, has, I confess, sometime invited and inclined me to venture upon making a distinction, that appears not to have yet occurred to philosophers, or divines. For instead of dividing the operations of God, here below, into two sorts only, natural and supernatural; I think we may take in a third sort, and divide the same operations into supernatural, natural in a stricter sense, that is mechanical, and natural in a larger sense, which I call supra-mechanical. For whereas all the *phænomena* of the world, as it is an aggregate, or system of mere bodies, are performed by matter, and local motion, according to mechanical laws; the operations of the human mind, and its organical body upon one another, are not to be accounted for by mere matter, and its mechanical powers: as is partly evident, by what is in this paper delivered about it, and may farther appear to those that, acknowledging the human soul to be an immaterial substance, heedfully consider the various effects of the intercourse betwixt her and it. So that these operations, that belong to a man as he is so, though in some sense they are not supernatural, because the order of things being once established by the most wise and powerful author of them, they are produced according to the course of nature; yet they may be stiled supra-mechanical, because they cannot be mechanically explicated or produced, nor can they be proved to flow from natural causes, if these are considered, as but corporeal ones. * * *

BUT, whatever be judged of the foregoing reflection, I think it may be justly said, that the strict association of the human body and mind is truly wonderful, as might appear, though we had no other proofs, by several peculiarities that relate to it: whereof some are antecedent to the union of those two substances, others do essentially constitute it, and others again belong to it, as laws or properties of it; but because, as I just now intimated, these are not the only proofs that may be proper for my design, I must desire you to take them up as you will meet with them, among some others in the following part of this discourse. For in man, in whom the human soul and body are in a state of union and conjunction, we may consider several things, which might here deservedly make so many distinct heads of this subsection, if I had leisure to treat of them separately; such as are, 1st, The union itself of the two parts of man, nakedly considered. 2dly, The time and manner of this union. 3dly, The power of the soul upon the body. 4thly, The passions, properly so called. 5thly, Other laws and *phænomena* of the union and intercourse of the soul and body. 6thly, The dominion of the whole man over the creatures. And 7thly, Their re-union after death, by the resurrection of the body, and the happy change of it; and perhaps new conditions of union or intercourse.

BUT these heads are too many, and too comprehensive to be here severally insisted on (especially in the order they are here delivered in.) Upon which score, I must content myself only but to touch upon some of them, and that but very briefly. * * *

THE considerations, we have been discoursing of may furnish us with an answer to those friends of who reject some mysterious articles of the Christian faith, because we cannot explain them by any adequate examples, or parallel properties; for even among mere creatures, there may be instances of monadical beings, whose properties are not to be found any where else; as in quantity, the incommensurable-

ness,

neſs of the ſide and diagonal of a ſquare; in figures, ſome of the affections of the circle, hyperbola, and other conick ſections; in bodies, thoſe of the ſphere; and, to come cloſer to the objection, in compounded beings, man, as he is a creature that reſults from the ſtrict and vital union of an incorporeal and intelligent mind, with a corporeal and organical body into one perſon, which has diverſe peculiarities, not to be met with in any creature of the whole viſible world.

APHORISMS *added to* SECT. 2. SUB-SECT. 3.

APHORISM I.

THE virtuoſo will eaſily find himſelf diſpoſed to aſcribe the formation and conduct of an animal, eſpecially of a man, rather to a Divine Author, than to ſo blind a thing as chance, that ſhall without partiality, and with attention, conſider the great variety of organs requiſite to ſenſation and nutrition, eſpecially of ſucking children, and the difficulty of compendiouſly uniting them into one engine, capable of ſo many, and ſo various functions, and eſpecially of producing a new engine like itſelf. For which laſt power alone, it muſt be furniſhed with a whole ſet of otherwiſe unneceſſary, though not always unuſeful, organs: which muſt alſo be adapted to thoſe that ſhould correſpond with them in another ſex.

APHORISM II.

GOD may diſplay more of his wiſdom in the metaphorical motions of an intelligent ſubſtance, ſuch as the human mind; than in the phyſical ones of a material ſubſtance; ſuch as is the corporeal world. For all that is done in matter, is performed by the help of local motion, by which the parts of it are divided and variouſly ranged; ſo that all the numberleſs *phænomena* that are exhibited in the material world, are but local motions of its parts, and the productions or reſults of ſuch motions: whereas an immaterial and intelligent ſubſtance is capable of as many differing modifications, as the world, as far as it is known to us, can produce ſenſations in it; ſince it is by theſe ſenſations, that we are brought to take notice of thoſe *phænomena*. And if it ſhould pleaſe the Divine Author of things, to furniſh a human body whereto the ſoul is united, with a greater number of ſenſitive organs, or a greater tenderneſs of thoſe that belong naturally to it; it would be found capable of modifications, correſpondent to the impreſſions, it were then diſpoſed to receive, from bodies or actions that do not now affect it: and conſequently, this new ſenſibility would ſhew that it is ſtill capable of more numerous modifications and perceptions, than all the *phænomena* of the univerſe, hitherto known to it, amount to.

APHORISM III.

GOD, by ſubjecting to the mind of man, ſome parts of the body it is united to, ſuch as ſome muſcles, and other inſtruments of voluntary motion, and by leaving it no power over many other parts of the ſame body, ſuch as the ſtomach, ſpleen, liver, kidneys, *&c.* that are ſubſervient to nutrition, ſhews, that he has freely, and arbitrarily eſtabliſhed the laws of union between the ſoul and body. And ſince the mind cannot, by bare willing, move even the inſtruments of voluntary motions,

unleſs the organs be rightly diſpoſed, as in ſome palſies, the patient is unable to move either his hand, or his tongue, how much ſoever he deſires to do it, and cannot feel even the prick of a thorn, or a pin: we ought to think it the leſs ſtrange, that this union of the human ſoul and body ſhould be of ſuch a nature, that, when the neceſſary parts have loſt their vital diſpoſitions, without which, they muſt be unfit to obey the mind, there enſues a total ſeparation of the two differing ſubſtances, in which divorce conſiſts, what we call death.

APHORISM IV.

There are ſome of the motions of a human body, that ſeem to argue a peculiar regard, and, as it were, interpoſition of divine providence, in the production and regulation of them. For I conſider, that there are divers motions of a man's limbs, and ſome other parts, that do not ſeem derivable from the general laws of motion in things (merely) corporeal, but rather to deviate from them, or thwart them: as when, for inſtance, a man lifts up a heavy body to approach it to a fit diſtance from his eyes, and holds it in his hand, whilſt he reads it; in this caſe the natural tendency of his hand and arm, is, as well as that of the book and other heavy bodies, downwards; ſo that when he raiſes the book to his eyes, and ſuſtains it there, notwithſtanding its gravitation on his hand, the motion upward, and the *conatus* that keeps the body from falling, is the effect of the arbitrary power of his will, and not derivable from the merely mechanical laws of motion; and therefore, though I will not ſay, that this elevation of the hand, that lifts up the book, is ſupernatural, becauſe it is conformable to the regular powers, the Author of nature has vouchſafed to man, yet, it may be termed ſupra-mechanical, becauſe it does not follow from the laws of motion eſtabliſhed among corporeal things: to which inſtance may be added, with advantage, the motions of a painter's and thoſe of a ſcrivener's hand, and many others. Nor will it ſuffice to object, that the human will does, in theſe caſes, not produce any new motion, but only determine the motion of the ſpirits, and by their means of the locomotive organs. For to put a check, at pleaſure, to the motion of a body, that does already actually move in one line, and determine its motions to continue in another, that is perhaps differing from it, or even oppoſite to it; to do this, I ſay, without oppoſing to the moving body, ſome other body, which, by its reſiſtance and ſituation may change its former courſe, is not a mechanical operation, as may appear by all the changes of determination, that one body makes in the motion of another. And I conſider farther, that this power, given to the human mind, ſeems, though a wiſe, yet an arbitrary, as well as peculiar effect of God's regard to man; in that this power extends only to ſome particular parts of his body, which are performed by pure mechaniſm, without the concurrence, or ſo much as the knowledge of the rational mind, and ſometimes againſt its will; ſuch as are the ſyſtole and diaſtole of the heart, the circulation of the blood, the motion of the chyle and lympha, and the periſtaltick motion of the guts.

APHORISM V.

In thoſe inſtruments of muſick, upon which tunes are played by help of an internal and hidden machine, both the manifeſt, and the latent contrivance deſerve our wonder, though, for differing reaſons, ſome reaching much farther than others. So likewiſe in *Archimedes*'s ſphere, and thoſe curious watches, that ſhow, beſides the

hour, the phaſes of the moon, the length of the days, the tides, *&c.* an ordinary man may juſtly, with admiration, diſcern the fitneſs and ſufficiency of ſuch a ſyſtem and frame of parts, and ſuch a conſecution of their motions, as the artiſt appears to have intended; and yet he may, no leſs, juſtly admire the aſtronomical and coſmographical ſkill, unknown to him, which enabled the artiſt to contrive, eſpecially in ſo little room, an inſtrument, regularly emulating the various motions of thoſe vaſt bodies, the ſun, the moon, and the ſea.

BUT whatever may be ſaid of the engines made by man, yet of man himſelf, who is a living engine made by God, it may be juſtly ſaid, that our knowledge, as well as our ignorance may well be a mother of admiration. For as the human body is ſo exquiſitely fitted for its numerous and various functions, as to deſerve our wonder upon the ſcore of its organization; ſo the noble faculties of the human mind, and the laws of its unparalleled and wonderful union with the body, by ſurpaſſing our clear comprehenſion, are entitled to our deſerved admiration.

A LITTLE reflection on what has been hitherto diſcourſed, may ſerve to diſcover to you, that the knowledge and contemplation of the works of God, that make up the greater and leſſer world, may afford divers motives to piety, and incentives to devotion, in a perſon as much diſpoſed to it, as we have all along ſuppoſed our virtuoſo to be. But among theſe it may ſuffice, in ſo ſhort a paper as this was deſigned to be, to touch upon five or ſix, and obſerve, that the ſtudy of the creatures may juſtly produce in a *virtuoſo*, 1ſt, A profound *admiration* of the majeſty, and ſome of the attributes of God. Secondly, An external *celebration* of him, for them, by hymns and praiſes. Thirdly, A deep *humility* in the view of his immenſe greatneſs and majeſty, and the diſtance of our nature, as we are human creatures, from his. Fourthly, A moſt deſerved *gratitude* for what he has vouchſafed to make us, and to do for us. Fifthly, A ſincere love of ſo excellent, ſo beneficent, and in a word, ſo highly amiable a being. [In making ſuch liberal and manifold proviſions, both for our neceſſities, conveniencies, innocent delights, and inſtruction, as if we be not wanting to ourſelves, we may find he has ſtored up for us in his other works.] And laſtly, the ſtudy of God's creatures may produce a *truſt* to, or reliance and dependance on his goodneſs, his promiſes, and his ability to accompliſh them both here and hereafter, eſpecially by providing for us ſuch noble, ſuch various, ſuch manly, and in ſome caſes, ſuch ſupra-human entertainments of our rational faculties, as may make us happy during all eternity itſelf.

BUT before we deſcend to the conſideration of the forementioned particular expreſſions of piety, or acts of natural religion, it may not be amiſs to obſerve, that the inſight of a *virtuoſo* into the works of nature, may enable him to contribute much [in a general way] to them all, by ſolidly laying, or ſtrongly confirming the foundation of all religion, whether natural or revealed, which is a firm belief of the exiſtence of God, and of ſome of his attributes that relate to the world, and to man. For, as the writer to the *Hebrews* judiciouſly obſerves, *He that* will *come to God*, that is, that would be religious, *muſt believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently ſeek him.* And this is a truth that ſurpaſſes all others, in regard of the influences it has upon mens lives, as much as the pole ſtar is more conſiderable than any other of the firmament, though they ſhine never ſo bright, to the attentive pilot; ſince by its direction, he ſteers all his courſes in his navigation. I know it will be ſaid by ſome, that it ſeems a libelling of our times and country, to labour to confirm the exiſtence of a Deity, as if in a Chriſtian country there could be any ſuch monſters as atheiſts or infidels. But though, by the converſation I have had for many years, with no ſmall variety of perſons, who were ſuſpected to be unfavourable Heb. xi. 6.

ble enough to religion, I am not satisfied, that I have met two or three speculative and resolved atheists, yet I am forced to suspect, if not to believe, that the territory of infidelity is not by much so narrowly circumscribed, as most men take it to be. For though, thanks be to God, and (partly) to good laws, there is little professed and speculative atheism to be found amongst us; yet in Christian countries themselves, there are too many that are but baptized infidels, especially among the pretenders to the knowledge of nature. For these men are not indeed, upon a deliberate *examen* of the question, come to a settled belief, that there is no Deity, and therefore may perchance abstain from some gross, heinous, or unprofitable sins, *for fear there should be one:* but they are not so fully persuaded, that really *there is one*, as, out of regard to him, to deny themselves a much beloved, or very profitable sin, or undergo any considerable hardship, or run any great danger. For some of these irresolved persons never thought the question, *whether or no there be a God*, worthy of a deliberate and serious debate, and therefore have no principle in them, that will carry them either to act or to suffer nobly for religion: and others, though they do not despise the question, yet do rather *take it for granted*, that there is a Deity, than *truly believe it*. And therefore they will suffer it, perhaps, to influence those passages of their lives, for which they are not much concerned: but when there happens to be a case, wherein, though a firm belief *would*, yet a bare surmise *will never* enable them to surmount a great difficulty, or resist a strong temptation, it will quickly appear to others, and oftentimes to themselves too, that their supposed faith was but a deceitful presumption.

For my part, the observation I have been long making of the publick and private transactions of men, inclines me to think, that *though* inconsideration and inordinate affections have oftentimes a criminal part in the impieties and immoralities that debase and trouble mankind; *yet* the greatest part of the mischief that bad men do to others, or themselves, may be imputed to the want of a sufficiently firm conviction, or belief of the existence and the main attributes of God. For though in particular actions, men, whose persuasions are sound, may, by the impetuosity of a passion or temptation, be hurried into great and criminal transgressions; yet it is hard to conceive, that deliberate, avowed, and habitual impieties and vices, can consist with a deliberate and firm belief, that there is such a being, as even natural religion represents God to be: that is, not an undiscerning, weak, or unconcerned, and in a word, a mere nominal deity; but such a powerful, wise, just, and active author, upholder, and sovereign governor of the world, as philosophy itself has been able to represent God to be. * * * *

As in divine faith, the measures are very unequal, some men's faith being like *Abraham*'s, of the first magnitude, and other men's so little, as to be likened to a grain of mustard seed: so the philosophical faith, (if I may so call it) or the assent that, upon grounds furnished by nature, men have concerning the existence and chief attributes of God, is very unequal, as to the degrees of evidence and firmness. And therefore it cannot but be an employment very worthy of a Christian philosopher, to range about among the creatures, and discover there what arguments he can, to confirm in himself and others, that great and fundamental truth, which is supposed in all the truths of natural, as well as of revealed religion. And here give me leave to consider, that though even a very weak assent may keep a man from being a downright atheist, yet it will not ordinarily suffice to make him a pious man; but his piety, as well as his other virtues, will usually be proportionate to the firmness of the assent he gives to that fundamental article of religion, that there is a Divine Maker and Ruler of the world. For this may be compared to a tree, which

may

may indeed grow without reaching much beneath the ſurface of the ground, but one that is better rooted, is not only more free from the danger of being thrown down by winds and ſtorms, but by ſpreading its roots far and deep, becomes as well more fruitful, as more robuſt and firm. And ſure, a Chriſtian *virtuoſo* may very well think it worth while to *ſtudy* the world, in order to gather from that inſpection, arguments to prove a Deity, ſince it is very probable, that the world was *made*, to manifeſt the exiſtence, and diſplay the attributes of God; who, on this ſuppoſition, may be ſaid to have made the world for the ſame purpoſe, for which the pious philoſopher ſtudies it.

APPLICATORY REFLECTIONS.

Admiration. Now to apply the paſt diſcourſe to our preſent ſcope; as the contemplation of the creatures naturally leads a *virtuoſo* to admire the Divine Author for them, ſo when this admiration is rightly grounded and directed, it becomes an act of piety or natural religion. For admiration, when it regards a perſon, involves in its notion an inward acknowledgment of great excellency in the object. And accordingly, he that duly admires God for the immenſe power, the matchleſs wiſdom, and the exuberant goodneſs he has diſplayed in the fabrick and guidance of the univerſe, and mankind, does by that internal conviction of the greatneſs, or rather boundleſſneſs of thoſe perfections, pay God the nobleſt homage his human intellect is able to tender. And that high veneration, which this inſpection of the creatures produces in the innermoſt receſſes of the mind, is an act of adoration, by which the rational ſoul doth indeed (to uſe our Saviour's expreſſion on another occaſion) *worſhip God in ſpirit and in truth*; ſince in the exerciſe of this philoſophical devotion, (if I may ſo call it) the mind is exceedingly raiſed and elevated, to frame notions and thoughts of God the leaſt unworthy of him, that our preſent imperfect ſtate will permit.

AMONG the many corporeal *phænomena*, and the other things, that may ſerve for juſt motives to a high admiration of the divine attributes diſplayed in the creatures, the chief, or at leaſt the fitteſt to be here touched upon by me, ſeem to be the following *ſix*, viz. 1ſt, The vaſtneſs of extent of the common matter of bodies. 2dly, The ſtupendous quantity and excellent laws of motion, framed and maintained in the parts of this common matter. 3dly, The amazing number of creatures, that by motion are produced out of this common matter. 4thly, The incomputable variety that is to be found among theſe productions. 5thly, The exquiſite ſtructures and contrivances of theſe productions, in particular. 6thly, and laſtly, Their relations to each other, as by way of influence and dependency, co-ordinations of ſome ſorts, and ſub-ordinations of other ſorts, mutual ſubſerviency to one another, harmony and ſymmetry, in reference to the coſmical ſyſtem, and the whole that they conſtitute. * * *

THERE is a ſtrange mixture of willingneſs and neceſſity, in the admiration that is produced in a Chriſtian *virtuoſo*, by the conſideration of the works of God. For *though* by an attentive and ſkilful contemplation of that multitude and variety of curiouſly framed objects, that he may meet with among them, he finds himſelf reduced to acknowledge, both that they are wonderfully contrived and ordered, and that they are more ſo than he is able to explicate or comprehend; *yet* his devotion makes him forward to confeſs this internal conviction, and even to rejoice in finding, that the ſupreme object of his veneration and love, is the author of greater perfections than he is able to comprehend. * * *

I CONFESS,

I CONFESS it is an eaſy thing to loſe one's ſelf in ſuch ſpeculations, about God's wiſdom, and his other attributes diſplayed in the framing and conduct of his creatures. But by this happy loſs, a pious *virtuoſo* finds himſelf a gainer, not only by diſcovering more and more of the divine excellencies, the further his contemplation penetrates into the myſteries or receſſes of them; but alſo by diſcovering, that how far ſoever his ſpeculations may have carried him, yet there remains in the divine perfections, an immenſe region, that is ſtill unknown to him, and which no penetration, or induſtry will enable him to ſee any bounds of. So that at the ſame time, and by the ſame means, he enlarges his knowledge, and yet plainly diſcerns, that he can never enlarge it ſo as to make it any thing near adequate to its object. For by ſeeing ſo far, and by finding himſelf unable to ſee that which he is convinced muſt lie beyond the bounds of his ſight; it is natural for him to conclude, *both* that the divine object is admirable, and that it is to his underſtanding, incomprehenſible. And indeed when we duly contemplate the divine attributes, and the ſignatures of them that are ſtamped upon (ſome, eſpecially, of) the creatures, even raptures and exſtatick celebrations are not only allowable, but laudable: and a *virtuoſo* may employ ſuch expreſſions without being an *enthuſiaſt*, or doing aught, but what becomes a philoſopher.

IF a naturaliſt were tranſported to, and made able to ſubſiſt in one of thoſe cœleſtial comets, that, according to ſome eminent modern mathematicians, are ſaid to paſs through divers *vortices*, till their continual remove from us, makes them vaniſh. Upon this ſuppoſition, I ſay, with what admiration and delight, may we preſume, that ſuch a man would paſs through thoſe cœleſtial regions, and ſurvey thoſe ſhining globes, that he ſhould in his way ſee near enough to diſcover, that they are not only far more vaſt, but perhaps far more adorned with multitudes of various creatures, and curious pieces of work, than the dull earth, we men inhabit. For even of this comparatively little globe, not to call it pill, in ſome *American* regions, that are, by great odds, leſs remote from our country, than the *Eaſt-Indies* are from *Europe*, the firſt diſcoverers inform us, that they ſcarce found any (not half a dozen) of the ſame kinds of animals, that we *Europeans* have among us; ſo that beaſts, birds, fiſhes, trees, fruits, herbs, and almoſt every thing they met with was new and ſurpriſing to them. And yet we know, that *America* affords us both plenty, and variety of creatures, which, though much differing from thoſe our countries ſupply us with, are no leſs noble, rich, and curiouſly framed than they.

BUT here I conceive myſelf obliged to admoniſh you, that a Chriſtian Virtuoſo may excite and cheriſh pious ſentiments in himſelf and others, not only by his contemplations of the corporeal creatures of God, but as he is verſed in chymiſtry, hydroſtaticks, *&c.* by his ſkilful ways of managing and improving them to human uſes, ſuch as medical, metallurgical, mechanical, agriculture, manual, and other trades.

THOUGH ſpeculative philoſophy does moſt conduce to the glory of the Creator of things, as that which diſplays his wiſdom in the formation and conduct of the world, yet I think practical, or rather operative philoſophy, which teaches men the manifold uſefulneſs of the creatures to human life and welfare, may much contribute to the ſame end, the glory of God. For when we find by welcome experience, the great advantages, that we may by the due exerciſe of the rational faculty, God has endowed us with, derive from the creatures, he has liberally beſtowed upon us, we are naturally led to acknowledge thankfully his goodneſs, and look upon him as a greater benefactor to us, than otherwiſe we ſhould think him. I ſee not why a chymiſt, for inſtance, may not find himſelf engaged to glorify God for his creatures, as well as a coſmographer; nor why an aſtronomer ſhould be more affected with the ſpeculation of the pole ſtar, as it makes a lucid part of the cœleſtial globe, than a pilot that finds

finds himſelf enabled, with the ſight of that ſtar, to ſteer his courſe, in the darkeſt night, through the ocean itſelf, to the deſired port.

I GRANT then that the ſpeculative part of natural philoſophy, does *moſt conduce* to make men admire and praiſe God's *wiſdom*; but the experimental part, may *powerfully engage* them to admire and praiſe his *goodneſs*. And as in this great and noble machine of the world, God has thought fit to diſplay more than one of his divine attributes; ſo I think, that they ought, each of them, to excite ſuitable affections in us: and that the curious fabrick of the world does highly deſerve our praiſes, but ſhould not ingroſs them: ſince as we owe our admiration to his incomparable wiſdom, ſo we owe, both that and our gratitude to his diffuſed beneficence.

THERE is a great deal of difference betwixt the admiration that proceeds from *ſimple ignorance*, i. e. a neſcience of what a learned man may and ought to know, and that which proceeds from a *learned ignorance*, if I may ſo call it, wherein a man, after having taken pains to be inſtructed, is, by the utmoſt knowledge he has attained, made ſenſible, that that knowledge is but imperfect, and very diſproportionate to the admired object. * * * *

* * * THERE is a great deal of difference between admiration, and admiration, according to the degrees of knowledge of the perſons that admire, and the grounds upon which they do it. And accordingly the wiſdom and munificence of God, expreſſed in the greater and the leſſer world, are nothing near ſo well celebrated by the vulgar of men, or even of ſcholars, as they may, and ought to be by philoſophers and *virtuoſi*. For *though* the obvious phænomena of the world, that preſent themſelves to the eyes, even of vulgar beholders, have on them ſtamps, or impreſſes of their Divine Author's attributes, capable of being ſeen, even by unſkilful or perfunctory ſpectators; *yet* the conceptions, that have but ſuch ſuperficial notices for their riſes, muſt needs fall very far ſhort of thoſe ſublime, and enlarged ideas of the works of God, that are framed by the more enlightened intellects of thoſe, that, not content with the ſuperficial proſpects of ſuch excellent pieces of work, do with great induſtry and ſagacity penetrate as far as thoſe two helps will enable them, (and that is more than a little) into the latent ſtructures, ſprings, and other contrivances, and in a word, into the more intimate nature, or conſtitution of particular things, and their ſeveral relations to the various bodies (though, perhaps, very differing and diſtant) that, according to the inſtitution of the Author of things, either act upon them, or are acted on by them. It is true, that ignorance of the cauſes of things, or of the manner of their being produced, is very ordinarily the parent of wonder. But this remark belongs to ſuch caſes, where it is the want of ſuch inſtruction, as learned men may give the ignorant admirer, that raiſes his wonder, which oftentimes too terminates in the ſenſible *phænomena*, or effect produced, as it was excited *by* it. But beſides this admiration of the ignorant, there is an admiration of the learned, which brings far greater honour to the Author of the things, that are both ways, but by differently qualified perſons, admired. For there are many of the works of God, which all the diſciplines, that a man can reſort to for inſtructions, will but engage him to admire the more deſervedly. For as I partly noted already, a true *virtuoſo* will not be ſatisfied with the obvious appearances of things, though even theſe may challenge ſome wonder, but he will be curious about the hidden manner, whereby thoſe appearances or *phænomena* are produced: and when by attentive and ſkilful ſpeculations he diſcovers, that ſo far, and no farther, he can give himſelf a rational account of the manner how ſuch difficult things are brought to paſs, his admiration becomes thereby, as well greater, as better grounded.

IT is true, that here below, familiarity oftentimes breeds contempt or wearineſs. But when the mind is converſant about divine objects, the innumerous and (as to our way of apprehenſion) manifold proſpects they afford, are ſuch, both for excellency and number, that the mind can never exhauſt that fountain of rational, and perhaps exſtatical delights: but finds in that moſt glorious, and in a ſound ſenſe, moſt various object, new cauſes of pleaſure and motives of veneration, as ſhe conſiders it under this, or that aſpect: juſt as a rich diamond, cut in facettes, appears with new and varied beauty and luſtre, as its parts and motions are conſidered in this, or that poſition and light: and though the bleſſed angels have, ever ſince the beginning of the world, been employed in contemplating, celebrating, and ſerving God; yet far from being weary of thoſe bleſſed employments, they diſcover ſtill, in that boundleſs ocean of perfections, things fit to heighen, even *their* wonder and veneration.

Admiration and Celebration.

* * * THOUGH I do not deny a diſtinction, between the admiration, and the celebration of God's works, ſince the former, as ſuch, is an internal affection, confined to the ſoul of the admirer, and the latter, is an external declaration of that ſentiment by words, and ſometimes alſo by actions; *yet* theſe two are, on ſeveral accounts, of ſuch great affinity to one another, that moſt of the things I have to ſay in this ſubſection, may be applied to both. And therefore I ſhall not be ſolicitous to ſort them nicely, contenting myſelf, if there be occaſion, to poſtpone to the reſt, ſome more properly referable to the later member of the propoſed diſtinction, than to the former. * * *

As our virtuoſo (whom in this diſcourſe we always ſuppoſe to be a naturaliſt) by his deeper inſight into the works of God, is able to diſcern far better than another ſpectator, how much they deſerve to be admired; ſo he is upon the ſame ſcore, far better qualified than other men, though, perhaps, otherwiſe learned, to celebrate the divine opificer for them. For the ſkill, that his experiments and ſpeculations may have given him, of the divine artifices and providence, obſervable in the frame and government of the world, may enable him both to diſcern, and to diſplay many excellent ſignatures and impreſſes of the divine wiſdom, œconomy, and beneficence, that a man needs be an induſtrious, and happier ſtudier of nature's wonders, to be able to perceive himſelf, and much more, to be fit to diſcloſe them to others.

A VIRTUOSO may glorify God, *i. e.* declare his divine perfections. 1ſt, As he is a *naturaliſt in general*, ſince a ſchool-philoſopher, and even an illiterate perſon may ſee in the creatures, things that deſerve our veneration and praiſe. And 2dly, As a *virtuoſo*, or *modern naturaliſt*, who is verſed in a way of philoſophiſing, that may enable him to diſcern himſelf, and diſcover to others, a *great many* ſignatures and impreſſes of the divine attributes, not taken notice of, or not reflected on by the ancients, nor by merely book-learned ſpectators, even of this age, that are ſo many juſt, as well as new motives, to praiſe the moſt wiſe Author of ſuch excellent works.

THOUGH admiration of God for his works, be a kind of mental celebration of him, and is very much our duty, yet whilſt it is but internal, it does not ſhow itſelf abroad; it may indeed, and probably is acceptable to God, who ſees the heart: but is too private an homage. It is fit therefore, that we publickly declare our admiration to others, and invite them to join with us, in acknowledging and celebrating the excellencies, that we have diſcovered to be diſplayed in the creatures, whereby we may, as far as in us lies, both do right to the divine poſſeſſor of ſuch excellencies, and engage others, by our example and reaſon, to join with us, to glorify him for them. Since the ſcripture introduces God himſelf, as ſaying, *he that offers praiſe, glorifieth me* *. And indeed it has been from age to age, the general ſentiment of mankind, that

* Pſ. l. ult.

that the moſt excellent, and beneficent being has a title, not only to our internal veneration, but to external and ſolemn expreſſions of it, both vocal and real.

BY vocal, I mean, not only thankſgivings, but pathetical expreſſions, whereby God's excellencies, and the impreſſes of them, in his works and doings, are magnified and extolled, which, for the greater ſolemnity, and the raiſing of mens minds to higher thoughts of him and them, were, alſo, oftentimes accompanied with the choiceſt muſick, and ſometimes, with poetical raptures, dreſſed in a form of ſongs or hymns.

BUT beſides theſe, the light of nature taught men to declare their veneration and gratitude, by ſuch expreſſions, as, for diſtinction ſake, I call real, ſuch as erecting of altars, temples, and other ſtructures, in honour of the Deity, true or ſuppoſed, they adored, as alſo feaſts and ſuch like publick rejoicings, and particularly ſacrifices, which laſt I the rather mention, becauſe that the more religious among philoſophers offered ſacrifice to *Mercury*, *Apollo*, *Minerva*, *Æſculapius*, &c. for the diſcoveries which they made, as they ſuppoſed, by the patefactions, or guidance, and influence of thoſe divinely intelligent beings. Of this we have a memorable example in that great philoſopher *Pythagoras*, who, as ſeveral ancient writers tell us, ſacrificed a hecatomb to the muſes, for the happy diſcovery he made of that noble and uſeful theorem, that was afterwards made the propoſition of the firſt book of *Euclid*'s Elements, where it may be ſtill found, though, perhaps, all the good uſes of it will not in haſte be found out.

SINCE then even heathen philoſophers could think themſelves obliged not to confine their gratitude to the breaſt, but to make publick acknowledgments of it; it will ſurely become a Chriſtian *virtuoſo*, to whom God has vouchſafed more than ordinary degrees of knowledge, of the excellency and uſefulneſs of his admirable works of creation and providence, to extol and celebrate the Divine Author of them, and invite others to join with him in paying a debt of praiſe and thanks, which is ſo great, that he is not able, alone, ſufficiently to acknowledge. The beſt way of doing this, is to manifeſt to others, (by more exact accounts, enriched with new diſcoveries,) and engage them to take notice of the wonderful works of God, which neither a vulgar ſpectator, or even a vulgar ſcholar, is able to do, any thing near ſo well as a ſkilful naturaliſt, and curious *virtuoſo*; for ſuch a perſon, by the help of anatomy, aſtronomy, chemiſtry, hydroſtaticks, dioptricks, &c. will be able to diſcloſe many wonderful things, about the fabrick, uſes, &c. of many of the creatures, that by unſkilful, or unattentive, or lazy peruſers, are altogether either unperceived, or unheeded. For, to inculcate here, what I elſewhere note, the works of God, need no greater celebration, than to be ſkilfully diſplayed, and well underſtood, being not like the feats of jugglers, that require ignorant, or heedleſs ſpectators to make themſelves admired, nor like the engines, and other works made by human artificers, which loſe their admirableneſs, when the artifice comes to be diſcovered, but the works of God are ſo perfect in their kind, that the more narrowly and critically they are inſpected, the more curious and exquiſite they appear, and the more they recommend the wiſdom and munificence of the Divine Author, and the more they invite the critical inſpectors to magnify him for them. * * * *

THE knowledge that a virtuoſo has, above that of the vulgar or the mere ſchoolmen, of the admirable fabrick of his own body, or the faculties of his mind, and of the ſenſations and paſſions that ariſe from their conjunction, deſerves, that he ſhould, for ſuch excellent things, extol and magnify the divine wiſdom and goodneſs. For ſure, if it be his duty to praiſe God for inanimate beings, and animals devoid of reaſon, he has much more cauſe to celebrate the divine goodneſs, for the

fabrick of his body, which, for aught we know, is the curiouſeſt piece of workmanſhip, of all corporeal creatures, in the world, and yet more reaſon to extol the Author of his nature, for having ennobled him with a mind capable of the knowledge of ſuch a body, and of celebrating the Author of the fabrick of that, and the much more noble nature, ſhe herſelf is bleſſed with.

A TRUE Chriſtian philoſopher thinks it a greater honour and advantage to be the image of God, than his vicegerent, and to have ſome, though but a faint *reſemblance* of his knowledge, immortality, holineſs, and ſome other perfections, than a *participation* of his power, over inferior creatures. And ſuch a perſon will find a higher ſatisfaction in being, as it were, the *prieſt of nature*, that offers up, what he only, of the viſible creatures, can preſent, the ſacrifice of praiſe and wonder to their common Maker, than in being *prince of the inferior world*; juſtly reputing piety to be a greater bleſſing than empire.

THE viſible works of God appear ſo excellent, even to ſuch immaterial and intelligent creatures as inhabit the inviſible world, that the ſcripture repreſents the angels themſelves, as applauding and celebrating their Maker, upon his *laying the foundations of the earth*, and the glorified ſaints, in the *apocalyps*, are introduced, as adoring and praiſing God, for his admirable works of the creation.

Humility. IT will, probably, be thought ſomewhat ſtrange, that among the religious virtues, which the contemplation of God's creatures, is proper to excite, or cheriſh in our virtuoſo, I ſhould reckon humility, ſince the higher degree of knowledge, that his inſpection into God's works, is reaſonably ſuppoſed to have given him, ſeems more likely to puff him up, than to make him humble.

BUT, to counterbalance this temptation, there are divers things in the book of nature, that are very fit to give a well-diſpoſed mind, ſentiments of humility, ſome of which reflections, I ſhall now briefly mention: though I purpoſely decline to inſiſt on the reproach, that ſeems to be made, even to the beſt part of mankind, the people of God, by the reſt of the creatures, whoſe regular conformity to the laws, God has ſettled for them in nature, may upbraid the moral irregularity of men, who alone, of the viſible creatures, are endowed with reaſon, that enables them to know God's laws, and a will, whereby they may conform to many, that they deviate from.

To proceed then, to motives of another kind, I ſhall in the firſt place repreſent, that it is an aſtoniſhing thing, to a perſon acquainted with modern diſcoveries, to conſider, attentively, the wonderful vaſtneſs of the corporeal world. For *not only* mankind, if it were all crowded into one place, would be of very inconſiderable bulk, in reſpect of the globe it inhabits; *but* this terreſtrial globe itſelf, is, without hyperbole, but a phyſical point, in compariſon of the cœleſtial part of the univerſe. Nay, as is elſewhere declared, according to the *Copernicans*, and divers others of the more accurate modern aſtronomers, the ſame may be ſaid of the incomparably vaſter great orb itſelf, which is that wherein the earth moves about the ſun, or he about her. Now it is natural enough, that the contemplation of this almoſt inconceivable extent of the world, ſhould make man, who is but an atom, in compariſon of that globe he inhabits, which is itſelf ſcarce more than an atom, in compariſon of the viſible world; ſhould, I ſay, make man have humble thoughts of ſuch a body as his, when he compares himſelf to that *great God*, as the ſcripture ſpeaks, that made and governs this immenſe maſs, we call the world, and whoſe power doth infinitely exceed it. The evangelical prophet in a lofty ſtrain, magnifies God, for the great inferiority of mankind to him: *Behold*, ſaith he, *the nations are as a drop of the bucket*, &c. and *are counted as the ſmall duſt of the balance; behold, he taketh up the iſles,*

Iſa. xl. 15.

as

as a very little thing: and again a little after, * *All nations, before him, are as nothing,* * ver. 17.
and they are counted to him leſs than nothing, and vanity.

A REELECTION of this kind, ſuggeſted to the kingly prophet, that humble and adoring exclamation, *When I conſider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon* Pſal. viii. 3.
and ſtars, (for it ſeems this devout addreſs was made in the night) *which thou haſt ordained, what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the ſon of man that thou viſiteſt him!* * * * *

THERE is another reflection, that may juſtly lead our *virtuoſo* to ſentiments of humility, which is, the imperfection of his knowledge of God's creatures, both in regard of thoſe, that he is a ſtranger to, and in relation to thoſe, which men are preſumed to be already acquainted with. * * * *

IT is true, that the opinion, men generally have, that becauſe *virtuoſi*, are more induſtrious to pry into the ſecrets of nature, than other men, they are liable to a greater temptation than they, to be proud of their knowledge, is a perſuaſion ſpecious enough: but yet, I think it erroneous, as grounded upon a miſtake. For the ſame application of mind, and the ſame inſtruments of knowledge, that enable them to make uncommon diſcoveries, are fit, at the ſame time, to make them ſenſible, that there remains more and more to be diſcovered, in the objects of their knowledge, and let them ſee, that *as* they have learned divers things, that vulgar ſcholars do not know, *ſo* they muſt confeſs, that there are more things, neceſſary to be learned, for the compleat knowledge of their ſubjects, than vulgar philoſophers do ſo much as dream they ought to know, and than theſe virtuoſi themſelves have yet attained the knowledge of.

OUR gratitude, when it reſpects God himſelf, who has obliged us in ſuch peculiar Gratitude.
ways, and ſuch high degrees, as no other benefactor can do, ſhould engage us, not only, to acknowledge *thankfully*, his great beneficence, but to make that a powerful motive, to *love* the divine Donor of all theſe benefits. This reflection, together with the great affinity between gratitude to God, and love of him, which makes it very difficult, and not very neceſſary, to ſeparate thoſe two duties, if not parts of the ſame duty, are the reaſons why, when I diſcourſe of the former, in this fourth article, I ſhall treat in ſuch a manner of gratitude, more ſtrictly ſo called, to God, as not to ſeparate from the reſt, divers paſſages, that relate more directly to the fifth article, about the love of God, as being fit to become incentives to it.

THE Gentiles, by the light of nature, had the means of obtaining ſo much knowledge of God, that is, of what was expedient for them to know, and not too difficult to attain, as to render them excuſeleſs, if they did not pay him a high veneration and gratitude. For they are condemned, by their apoſtle, for two things, which, by his cenſuring them for, it appears, that the light of natural reaſon ought to have led them to avoid. For *firſt*, he reproaches them for this, that, *having known God*, they yet *did not glorify him as God*, i. e. with that peculiar and higheſt veneration, that belongs to the ſupreme and moſt excellent of beings. And *then*, he reproves them for not being thankful to him, in ſuch a manner and degree, as becomes, and as far as may be, is worthy of a divine and moſt munificent benefactor. Both which reprehenſions laid together, ſufficiently argue, that if the works of God's creation and providence, be duly conſidered, though but by the dim remains of the light of nature, much impaired indeed, but not extinguiſhed by the fall of our firſt parents, it will ſuggeſt both ſufficient proofs of the exiſtence, power, eternity, and divers other attributes of God, and furniſh the mind with very engaging motives to gratitude, to ſo excellent and beneficent a being: the genuine expreſſions of which gratitude, are not only verbal, ſuch as are praiſes and thanks, but real too, ſuch as

to

as to pay him religious worship, imitation of him in all things, wherein it is fit for us to endeavour it, and a faithful obedience to all his laws, written in our hearts, or that by any other means, come to our knowledge. * * *

Besides the benefit a man receives from his continual conservation, by God's sustaining power, as he is a part of the universe, and so partakes of the common benefit of the creatures in general, there is scarce any man, especially, if he be not young, that does not owe very much to his Maker, for particular and personal preservations; yet there are very few that take notice of this, and make returns of gratitude, any way proportionate, to what the benefit deserves. For, when I consider what a vast number and variety of accidents, man is subject to in this world, and how often he is in danger, even when he knows it not, or has the least suspicion of it, and so does nothing to prevent some, and can do nothing to the purpose, to prevent others, did he know them, never so well, I can scarce but admire to see an old man, especially that enjoys health. For a human body consists of divers hundreds of parts, great and distinct enough, to be manifest to the unassisted eye, nay, and to have distinct names given them, by anatomists, and each of these may be harmed, by so many outward agents, and internal causes, and some of these invisible and unsuspected, that, as I elsewhere note, it seems as strange, that in so compounded and delicate a machine, as a human body, nothing should be out of order, or complained of, as that a musical instrument, that were furnished with a thousand strings, (none of them superfluous,) should be long in tune, since the very change of the air, may suffice to disorder it, as oftentimes we see it also do, to the living machine of a human body.

Venomous creatures themselves are not to be kept out of the list (or number) of those, for which men ought to praise and thank the Creator. For however, in some regards, or in some circumstances, they may be hurtful to us, yet, their nature may be as admirable, as those that are harmless, or even beneficial to us. And therefore deserves, that we should praise the Author of such curious works, as we do the fires of a pyrobolist, and the artificer himself, as well, when they threaten us in bombs and fire balls, as when they shine innocently, in rockets, and other delightful fireworks; and as for the mischievousness of some venomous creatures, it is in many instances, compensated by the advantageous uses, that skilful men have already made, or, in probability, will hereafter make of them, as did partly appear, long ago, by viper-wine, treacle, *&c.* and by oil of scorpions, useful for divers distempers, besides those, which their own stings produce. Thus, though opium be vulgarly reckoned among poisons, and indeed too often proves one, in unskilful hands, yet, especially if it be dexterously prepared, when it is given in a fit dose, and other circumstances, it becomes a remedy, that many of the modern physicians look upon, as one of the chief and noblest instruments of physick. And so arsenick, though a rank poison, may be so corrected, that some chemists have made very good use of it, in stubborn outward affections. And by an easy preparation of it, not to be met with in any book, we have so corrected it, that not only it proved, in chirurgeons hands, very effectual in some uncommon and obstinate distempers, but, almost against my will, was given in pretty large doses inwardly, and found to be a notable medicine, operating as a potent diaphoretick, and, which I less looked for, a cordial.

God hath an indisputable title to our gratitude, as being our benefactor, and that, in so eminent and peculiar a manner, as is impossible to be equalled by any other. For besides, that upon the score of being our maker and preserver, we owe him even ourselves, we are likewise indebted to him, for all the benefits, that we receive from other benefactors. For as, speaking in general, he alone is the original and exuberant

ant fountain of good: so, as to particular men, he is, what an apostle stiles him, that *Father of lights, from whom every good and perfect gift comes down unto us* *. Since it is he that gives all our other benefactors, as well the ability, as the will to be so, and that doth indeed intend us all, that is reached out to us, by the hands of others, who, though they are looked upon as free agents, are indeed but as instruments, in doing of us good. And therefore, if the noblest patriots, among the ancient Gentiles, had reason to esteem, that the gratitude, that a man owes his parents and his country, can never be fully discharged, or so paid off, as not to remain due; sure such an obligation on us, may be far more challenged by God, to whom we owe them, our parents, and our country, as well as other blessings.

* James i. 17.

NOR do the benefits we enjoy as men, exact so much of our gratitude, as the advantages which he doth vouchsafe us, as Christians. For, as he gives us, in reason, a capacity of *knowing* him, so he allows us, in religion, the means of *enjoying him:* and not only permits, but invites and encourages us to aspire to a felicity, that will so dignify our natures, and make our persons so happy, that all that we either do, or can enjoy here below, is the least part of those blessings, which nothing, but our being unkindly and criminally wanting to ourselves, can make us miss. So that we owe him incomparably less, for what we possess, than for what we are allowed to hope for, and the highest blessings, we can here attain to, must be so less, as they are present effects of his bounty, than, as we may make them pledges of his future favour.

IT ought much to increase our gratitude to God, for all the above-mentioned benefits, and indeed, all his benefits in general, that they are wholly free, and no way deserved, or procured by any thing in us. For we owe to God, our very beings, as we are men, (since of the same lump of earthy matter, of which he formed the body of the first man, he might, if he had pleased, as easily have formed a dog, or an ape.) This being is antecedent to, and must be presupposed, in all those qualities and actions, by which the proudest men can pretend any thing of merit. God was supremely happy in himself, before he made man, and that production of some of his other attributes, was an effect of his pure liberality, and a voluntary emanation of his exuberant goodness. He needs not the services of men, nor receives any other advantages by them, than that they give him occasions to exercise his liberality, to those that perform them, nor needs he the unskilful praise of mortal men. Since, if he delighted in them, for their own sakes, he can be, and still is celebrated, by the hymns and hallelujahs of creatures, of a higher order than men, I mean the angels, who with joyful songs and shouts did, as we are told, in the book of *Job*, celebrate the foundation of the earth, and afterwards loudly praised God, for the whole creation, as we are told, in the apocalyps. * * *

* * * GOD is so munificent and disinterested a benefactor, that gratitude to him is not more a great duty, than a profitable one. For when we pay him our thanks, we invite him to increase the motives of our thankfulness.

FOR his goodness delights in the occasions of exercising further degrees of it, when he finds, that his first favours qualify men to receive new ones, nay, which is more, his exuberant goodness does not only recompense us with an extreme delight, when we exercise acts of gratitude, but rewards even, our desires and our ineffective endeavours, to show ourselves grateful.

I WILL not here make a solemn invective against ingratitude, contenting myself to give you this observation about it, that, although I have for many years been reduced to converse with no small number of persons, guilty of impiety or immorality; and though many of them owned, and gloried in their vices, some in this, as drunkenness,

neſs, and ſome in another, as uncleanneſs, yet, I never met with, nor heard of any, that owned, much leſs boaſted of ingratitude: ſo heinous is that ſin, even in the eyes of thoſe, to whom other vices appear juſtifiable, if not laudable. How great a crime then muſt it be, to be ingrateful to God, who is, on many and peculiar accounts, the firſt and greateſt of our benefactors! And to apply this to our preſent purpoſe: it is ſome degree of ingratitude for benefits, that we can never be ſufficiently thankful for, if we neglect any fit means (ſuch as are a pious ſtudy of his works, with a deſign of growing more religious by it) to heighten our gratitude, and excite us to expreſs it, by thanks and praiſes, as well ſkilfully, as devoutly paid; eſpecially, ſince our acts of gratitude are, by the exuberance of our great benefactor's goodneſs, made to be ſuch, that inſtead of paying our debt, they increaſe it; ſince by his bounty, the thanks, that we give for paſt benefits, entitle us to new ones.

Love

THOSE divine perfections, that have been lately repreſented, as proper motives to the ſix *ſeparate* acts of religion, formerly mentioned, thoſe, I ſay, being conſidered *all together*, and in conjunction with ſome others, ought powerfully to engage us, by their concourſe, to a true and ardent *love* of God. For the two main things, that, naturally and uſually produce love in us, are the excellency and amiableneſs of the perſon, and his kindneſs and beneficence to us. Now, both theſe attractives are to be found, and that in a peculiar way, and tranſcendent degree, united in God; who ſince (as partly has been, and partly will be ſhown,) he highly deſerves our wonder, adoration, thanks, and truſt, muſt, upon thoſe accounts, (which yet are not the ſole ones) moſt juſtly deſerve our love. For in what object can we find, *any thing near*, ſo manifold, or ſo great excellency, as in him, whoſe very nature it is to be *a being infinitely perfect*; and in whom, all thoſe excellencies, that we admire and venerate in the creatures, among whom they are but ſcattered, do meet and concur (if that be poſſible) in a more than ſuperlative degree.

THOUGH the nature of this little tract obliges me to treat of the ſubjects handled in it, more as a naturaliſt, than a divine; yet, upon this occaſion, I ſhall deſire you to take notice, once for all, that philoſophical arguments are the moſt uſual, without being the only ones, that are employed in this paper, eſpecially, becauſe I did not think myſelf obliged, ſcrupulouſly, to forbear to uſe, now and then, a paſſage of the holy ſcriptures, when I find it very pertinent to the ſubject and deſign. For there are ſeveral things that may be proved, or perſuaded, by arguments and motives furniſhed, both by natural reaſon, and by revelation too. Of which many inſtances may be given, as in the divine attributes, the creation, the rational ſoul, the affections and paſſions incident to man, *&c.* And therefore, ſince I write not to an infidel, but to a *Chriſtian Virtuoſo*, it may be allowable, as well as uſeful, ſometimes, to bring in a paſſage or two of ſcripture, to dilucidate or confirm ſomething, whereof natural reaſon gives us *ſome*, and yet, but a more *imperfect* notice, and by the aſſociation, to enlarge our notions, and ſtrengthen what we ſay, and make it more operative.

TO diſcourſe of the love of God, merely as a naturaliſt, is to treat of it with great diſadvantage and imperfection. For of the motives fit to produce that love in us, thoſe are far more powerful, that may be drawn from the reading of that divine book we call the ſcripture, than thoſe, that are afforded us by the moſt accurate inſpection of the book of nature. For this latter does, indeed, ſhow us *a part* of what God *has done for us*; but the former manifeſts to us, not only, *another part*, conſiſting of many other, and greater things, that God, and his only Son have *done for us*; but (what the contemplation of the creatures, would never have ſuggeſted,

ſo

ſo much as a ſuſpicion of) thoſe afflictions, ignominies, and torments, (worſe than the death, they ended in) that his divine Son, by whom he made the world, whereto he granted him, *has ſuffered for us.* * * * *

BUT, though the Chriſtian religion does furniſh us with the nobleſt motives to the love of God, yet, I do not ſee cauſe to queſtion, as ſome moderns are ſaid to do, whether by the dictates of natural reaſon, men are bound to love God. For it ſeems to me, that the obligation men have to love God, is the ſame, on which all the other duties of natural religion are founded; namely, on the *one ſide*, the excellency of his divine nature, and his beneficence to us, as the author and preſerver of human nature; and, on the *other ſide*, man's being a rational creature, who, upon the account of his reaſon, is able to diſcern enough of the divine perfections, to convince him, that they are adorable, and that he is a debtor to God's goodneſs and providence both for his being, and his well being. For, theſe relations being thus ſtated, the obligation, not only to *worſhip* and *obey*, but to *love* ſo excellent a being, and ſo bounteous a benefactor, does naturally reſult from them. * * * *

THAT it is God's will, that men ſhould love him, may be argued from hence, that he has given to man, both ideas of what is amiable, or lovely, and a propenſity, or inclination to love that, and nothing elſe. For he who is both a moſt free, and a moſt wiſe agent, would never have ſo framed the mind of man, as we find he has done, if he did not know himſelf to be moſt lovely and amiable, to ſuch a creature, rightly conſtituted; to whom, he *could* elſe have, and no doubt *would* have given other ideas and natural propenſions. * * * * *

YOU will eaſily be perſuaded of the raviſhing amiableneſs of GOD, if you conſider, that being both infinitely perfect, wiſe, and potent, it is yet his will to be beloved by men; and that he vouchſafes to appear very deſirous we ſhould accompliſh it, ſince he, that in a tranſcendent degree poſſeſſes thoſe amiable and attractive excellencies, would never have given us thoſe notions of goodneſs, and lovelineſs, that he hath done, if he did not know that his attributes can fully anſwer, and deſerve them. * * * *

BUT it will much the better appear, that men are obliged, by the dictates of natural reaſon, to love God, if we ſomewhat diſtinctly, though but briefly, conſider the immediate and proper motives to do ſo, wherewith, on ſeveral accounts, an ingenuous and rational man is furniſhed.

THESE motives, or inducements, are chiefly of two ſorts; to the firſt belong all the adorable excellencies of the divine nature, that are diſcoverable by the light of reaſon.

THE motives of the ſecond ſort, may be reduced to theſe two, which are afforded by conſidering, 1ſt, What God *has done for man.* And 2dly, What *he will do for him*, in caſe he prove a fit object of his beneficence.

To the firſt ſort belong, (as was newly ſaid) all the adorable excellencies of the divine nature, at leaſt, as far forth, as they are either clearly diſcoverable by our human reaſon, in its full exerciſe, or are, in a more particular way, probably deducible from the conſideration of God's works of creation and providence.

THE nature of man is ſo framed, that when he perceives, in another rational being, any true virtue, or excellency, he finds himſelf incited to make that being an object of his love, though, perhaps, he did not derive, or promiſe himſelf, any perſonal benefit from the object that engages his affection. It is congruous to this, that we obſerve, that when a reader of the hiſtory of *Scipio*, *Cato*, *Socrates*, *Xenophon*, or ſome other ancient worthies, mentally tranſports himſelf, (if I may ſo ſpeak) into the country, and the age, wherein that rare perſon lived and acted; he does natu-

rally, and oftentimes warmly, concern himſelf in the adventures of his admired hero: he heartily wiſhes him ſucceſs in his enterpriſes, is troubled at his croſſes, fears in his dangers, triumphs in his victories, rejoices in his proſperity, and, in ſhort, makes himſelf a ſharer in his good, and in his evil fortunes; which are the natural tokens of the real affection we have, for thoſe we truly love; though the heroes, whoſe partners we thus make ourſelves, lived in times and places, ſo remote, that we could receive no benefit from their greateſt proſperity, and could be no perſonal objects of their love. And it ſeems to be upon the like account, that many, eſpecially of the more generous minds, are ſo affected in reading of well writ romances, whilſt they forget, that they are but fictitious perſons, who are repreſented, as endowed with the excellent qualities, by which it was deſigned to recommend them. Upon this propenſion in human nature, to love rational beings, that excel in virtues, whether intellectual or moral, it is but juſt, that a *virtuoſo* ſhould elevate his love to God, who has not only, in a ſupreme degree, thoſe excellencies, that are directly beneficial to us, as wiſdom and beneficence, but divers others too, that make him moſt juſtly adorable; ſuch as are his ſelf-exiſtence, his abſolute independency, his ſpirituality, his eternity, both *à parte ante*, and *à parte poſt*; his immenſe power, his providence, in the conſervation and the government of his creatures, his infinite perſpicacity, and his exact veracity, *&c.* But, though I do not, nay, though I could not name any more of his perfections, in particular, yet it is rational to think, in general, that he may have many perfections, whereof we have, as yet no diſtinct notice, not to ſay, ſo much as a ſuſpicion. For when I conſider, that this viſible world of ours, though its vaſtneſs do uſually and juſtly aſtoniſh us purblind men, yet may, for aught we know, be but a ſmall part of the great univerſe, or ſyſtem of the corporeal works of God: and when I alſo conſider, that we know very little of any other of the divine perfections, ſave thoſe that relate to the creatures (among which we men are to be numbered) already known to us, *as* God's power, and his wiſdom relate to the creation and government of the world, and of mankind, *and* his goodneſs relates to his beneficence, from which effects, the ſuitable attributes of God are inferred: *ſo* if there be *other parts*, of the material world, not yet viſible, or known to us, I ſee no reaſon, why God may not have other relations to *them*, than thoſe that our world ſuggeſts us the notices of.

I KNOW not but that I may, without impertinency, add, that we ought not confidently to think, that the corporeal world, even in its utmoſt extent, (whether viſible to our naked eyes, or not viſible to them) and alſo, even when aſſiſted by our beſt teleſcopes, affords us all the grounds we may have of thinking, that God may have many excellencies that are not known to us. For if there be really, beſides mere bodies, incorporeal beings endowed with underſtandings, and wills, we may rationally ſuppoſe, upon their account, other excellencies in God, than thoſe which his material works have diſcovered to us.

SINCE divers philoſophers, that took nature only for their guide, arrived ſo far, as to acknowledge abſtracted intelligences: *ſince* we find, that *Ariſtotle*, and the philoſophers of his numerous ſect, held ſuch to be the movers of the cœleſtial orbs: and *ſince* other philoſophers, upon differing accounts, believed there were good and bad *dæmons* of ſeveral orders, and the greater number of philoſophers believed rational ſouls to be immortal, and many of them, that, as they were diſtinguiſhed from their vehicles, were immaterial too.

SINCE theſe things, I ſay, are ſo, we may reaſonably ſuppoſe, that among thoſe communities of ſpiritual beings, many things would be found, if we were able to obſerve

obſerve them, that may give God occaſion to make ſeveral exertions, (if I may ſo ſpeak) of his boundleſs and exuberant perfection, which, after our manner of conceiving things, would require diſtinct names, and induce us to frame for them other ideas, and conſider in God ſo many (new) attributes, and excellencies, that we never thought of before. As upon ſuch diſcoveries, occaſioned by the fall of the firſt man, his poſterity came to aſcribe to God new relations to his human creatures, and divers others too: upon which relations, his actings gave men occaſion, to aſcribe to him ſuch attributes as punitive juſtice, mercy, longanimity, ſeverity, patience, *&c.* proportionably to this if we knew how his perfection is exerciſed towards thoſe ſeveral orders, or communities, of his inviſible, and yet rational creatures, that we were newly ſpeaking of, according to their ſeveral natures, laws, and actings; it is ſcarce to be doubted, but that we ſhould thence take occaſions (and that juſtly too) to frame *ideas*, for ſeveral divine excellencies, in that boundleſs ocean of perfection, God, for which we have yet no names, and much leſs any proper and diſtinct notions. * * *

I KNOW not, why it may not be added, on this occaſion, that ſince men naturally think themſelves obliged to love their benefactors, eſpecially if they be worthy perſons, and ſo are wont to look upon love, as a part, or duty of gratitude, I ſee not, I ſay, why the things repreſented, in the article about gratitude, may not be made uſe of to increaſe the number, or, at leaſt, the force of thoſe arguments, that are, in this article, employed, to engage men to the love of God.

To the ſecond ſort of motives to love God, belong,

FIRST, The conſideration of what God has done for man, under which may be included, 1ſt, What he has made man. 2dly, The dominion he has given him over multitudes of other creatures. 3dly, His placing man in a world ſo framed, as this of ours is, and enabling him to employ, or enjoy, by contemplation, application, ſpiritualiſation, or otherwiſe, thoſe creatures he cannot reach, nor directly command. 4thly, The faculties, that are granted him, and improvable by him, over animals, plants, and foſſils, to rule over them, and convert them to his uſes. 5thly, The converſation, both of the univerſe itſelf, or preſent frame of things, and of other animals beſides men, by God's continual concourſe, alſo his governing the world by an admirable providence, eſpecially with relation to the welfare of mankind. 6thly, The perſonal benefits, particular men have received, and eſpecially that laſting one (not only of converſation, but) of preſervation, by preventing dangers, and delivering them from them. * * *

AMONG the things, that God has been pleaſed to do for man, we may reckon, in the firſt place, that he has made him man, for as this is the prime benefit, and is neceſſarily preſuppoſed in all others, (for that which is not is uncapable of enjoying any thing) ſo what we have newly diſcourſed of the excellency of the human nature, may let us ſee, that we owe our Maker exceeding much, for having conferred on us ſo precious a benefit.

IN man, as it concerns our preſent purpoſe to conſider him, there are three things, that are briefly to be taken notice of, his mind or rational ſoul, his body, and the union of both, with the natural conſequences of it. I do not here, where I am confined to a few pages, pretend to deliver a pſychology, or full and methodical diſcourſe of the ſoul, ſince it may, here, ſuffice to obſerve, that according to what has been ſaid, when we treated of it in the ſecond ſection, it is a creature endowed with moſt noble faculties, as underſtanding, will, memory, and a ſpiritual ſort of affections, and that theſe are accompanied with a capacity of being further and further improved, both by thoſe great illuminations, that God may vouchſafe it, and by his

bleſſing, upon her own orderly and diligent endeavours, to improve herſelf. So that the rational ſoul being an immaterial and immortal, as well as an intelligent creature, is of a higher order, and greater excellency, than any part of the corporeal world, not to ſay, than that whole world itſelf, the ſoul being indeed but an impriſoned angel, if I may ſo call it, as in the *Carteſian* philoſophy, a planet is, inwardly, a ſelf ſhining ſtar, ſhrouded and kept obſcure by the groſs, and opacous matter that ſurrounds it. And this, I preſume, may ſuffice to make ſuch a gift, as the ſoul, a juſt motive to human gratitude.

BUT ſince the rational ſoul exiſts not here below, but in a vehicle, *viz.* the human body, it may juſtly increaſe the motives of gratitude, if it be conſidered, how excellent a manſion the wiſdom, and goodneſs of God, have provided for the noble gueſt; this manſion, as *Moſes* informs us, was formed at the cloſe of the corporeal world, as a maſter-piece, worthy to crown the whole work. Of the excellency of this admirable vital engine: many things have been ſaid already, which allows me to paſs on. * * * *

I THINK it may be deſervedly added, to the other motives, that philoſophy itſelf, affords the ſtudiers of nature, to love the God of nature; that he has made man, and man only, among his viſible creatures, capable of loving him. For whether, or no, it be true, which we are told by the *Carteſians*, and ſome other philoſophers, that beaſts are but engines; yet it is generally confeſſed, that no creature, that is merely corporeal, whatever love it may be capable of, for other objects, is capable of raiſing its love ſo high, as to fix upon God. Inanimate creatures are evidently uncapable of love, which is a paſſion of the ſoul, or mind, that is, of a ſubject, whereof they are deſtitute. And, for aught I know, it may well be doubted, whether brutes have any true paſſions, that is, as properly ſo called, as thoſe that go under the ſame name in men, even when the viſible motions of their bodies ſeem to argue a ſufficient reſemblance betwixt them, as a child, or perhaps a country-fellow, will judge by the grinning change made in the countenance of an ape or monkey, and much more by the noiſe, by a parrot, that has been taught to ſpeak, *&c.* that he truly laughs, though laughter have long been, by philoſophers, reckoned to be almoſt as eſſential a property of man, as rationality itſelf. And even in our own *ſpecies*, I have ſeen ſome ladies, that in violent fits of the mother, would fall into great fits of laughter, though I knew the occaſion of the hyſterical diſtempers, that produced this ſeeming laughter, was an exceſs of grief for the untimely death of a beloved relative. * * *

* * * * THE ſecond boon of the divine bounty to man is, that God has placed him in a world ſo framed as ours is, *&c.* I will not ſay, as many do, that all this vaſt and beautiful ſtructure, we call the univerſe, was made ſolely, or principally for man, but this may be ſaid, that a great part of that mundane globe, he lives upon, is very well fitted for his uſes, ſo that, if he be not wanting to himſelf, it will furniſh him, not only with all neceſſaries to his life, but with a multitude of accommodations to make it eaſy and comfortable to him. * * * *

SINCE all the beautiful and uſeful creatures we admire, or enjoy, are the free emanations of the Creator's exuberant goodneſs, it is but juſt and natural, that thoſe ſtreams ſhould lead us to the fountain, whence they flow, and give us affections ſuitable to the contentment, and other benefits we receive from them.

APHO-

APHORISMS *added to* SECT. 2. SUB-SECT. 4.

APHORISM I.

IF a man light upon an anonymous, but excellent poem, that is partly written in plain characters, and partly in cyphers of differing kinds, (as of numbers and tranſpoſed letters of the alphabet) it will be much more rational for him to infer, from the verſes he does clearly underſtand, that it was written by an excellent poet, than it were to argue, that becauſe he cannot underſtand ſome paſſages, that are written in cyphers, the author did not ſhow himſelf a poet, but rather wrote nonſenſe in thoſe paſſages; eſpecially, if the peruſer, having, by an attentive ſtudy, decyphered ſome part of the critical words, perceives them to be very congruous and appoſite. For thence he may very probably gather, that even thoſe paſſages are ſo too, that by reaſon of the tranſpoſitions, purpoſely made of the letters, do not afford good rhymes, but perchance ſound very harſh and unlike to them. It is eaſy to apply this to the artifice, that ſhining in very many of the works of nature, do far more ſtrongly argue, that the world was made by an intelligent and deſigning agent, than the contrary can be proved, by ſome *phænomena*, that we cannot underſtand the reaſon of, or by few others, that, to our dim apprehenſions, appear incongruous to providence, or wiſdom, of the author and rector of the world.

APHORISM II.

I HAVE one conſideration to add to all that I have ſaid, of the wiſdom (and, if I may ſo ſpeak) the ſkill of the divine opificer of things, which though, perhaps, it may ſomewhat ſurprize you, I cannot allow myſelf to pretermit, I conſider then, that though what I have hitherto delivered, about the wiſdom of God, and what has been obſerved, in former ages, to the ſame purpoſe, are grounded upon our ſurvey of the manifeſtly viſible world, that is, of thoſe parts of the corporeal univerſe, that are diſcoverable by our naked eyes: yet that gives us but a very imperfect notice of the works of the omniſcient author. For, I think we may diſtinguiſh the works of God into three worlds, or grand communities. The firſt, is the ſpiritual world, conſiſting of good angels, and other intelligent beings, as devils, and ſeparate human minds, that have either no bodies, or none that we can ſee. And of theſe ſpirits, there may be more ſpecies, than we are acquainted with, ſince without admitting the various kinds, or orders, of dæmons, which the heathen philoſophers, eſpecially *Platoniſts* and *Pythagoreans*, ſpeak of, or thoſe elementary ſpirits, that *Paracelſus*, in his extravagant book of them, calls ſilphes, nymphs, gnomes, and ſalamanders, not to admit theſe, I ſay, the ſcripture itſelf ſpeaks of angels, good and bad, calls one of theſe laſt named, the prince of the devils, and to the bleſſed ſpirits, out of the ſtate of conjunction, gives the titles of arch-angels, angels, *&c.* and both ſtiles the ſeparated ſouls of good men, *the ſpirits of juſt men made perfect*, and mentions them as like, or equal to the angels. But to take further notice of this nobleſt inviſible world, were improper in this place. The ſecond, is the viſible world, in the uſual ſenſe of the term, conſiſting of all the bodies, great and little, that are objects proportioned to our unaſſiſted ſight. And the third, which for want of a fitter name, I venture to call the dioptrical world, which conſiſts of all thoſe creatures, that lay concealed, in former ages, from mortal eyes, and are not now diſcovered,

diſcovered, without dioptrical glaſſes, and this itſelf, if one pleaſe, one may, for diſtinction ſake, diſtribute into teleſcopical and microſcopical. The firſt whereof, comprehends the numerous fixed ſtars, that good teleſcopes ſhow us, in the milky way, the *Pleiades*, the belt of *Orion*, and divers other parts of the firmament, or expanſum, and the latter (*viz.* the microſcopical) compriſes thoſe numerous ſets of different creatures, mineral, vegetable, and animal, which, by reaſon of their wonderful minuteneſs, remain inviſible to our eyes, unleſs they be aſſiſted by good microſcopes.

APHORISM III.

THE conſideration of ſpeech, ſeems to be a thing of importance, in the diſquiſition about divine providence. For we ſee, that a man, that knows a language, as for inſtance, *Greek*, or *Latin*, whoſe words, with the various determinations, that a good part of them may require to be declined, or conjugated, amount to many thouſands, may yet be readily pronounced, and that ſwiftly, after one another, by the bare will that the ſpeaker's mind has to pronounce them, without any *conatus* or laborious endeavour of the rational appetite itſelf, (though not always, without producing, at length, ſome wearineſs in the corporeal inſtruments of theſe numerous and various motions.) And if a man be ſuppoſed to be as great a linguiſt, as good authors aſſure us that *Mithridates* was, who underſtood the differing languages of above two or three ſcores of people, that he commanded, the wonderfulneſs of ſpeech will ſeem to be increaſed. And if the mind of man, who is ſo *imperfect* a creature, can, without pains, or wearineſs, produce ſo great a multitude of differing motions and ſounds, why may not God, who is infinitely *perfect*, be able to produce, and regulate, as many motions, as may ſuffice to produce all the phænomena of things corporeal. And if you ſhould tell me, with ſome new *Carteſians*, that it is not the mind itſelf, that excites and governs theſe motions, but God who does it, at the wiſh and endeavour of the mind; I ſhall anſwer, that the objection much ſtrengthens my argument, ſince there being ſome hundreds of millions of men in the world, that, excepting very few, are well endowed with the faculty of ſpeech, God muſt be acknowledged to have, both a very extended power, an aſtoniſhing degree of knowledge, and a continual watchfulneſs and care, that ſo numberleſs a multitude of ſonorifick motions, (if I may ſo call them) ſhould be continually produced, and regulated, according to the various intentions, and deſires, of all the inhabitants of this our world.

APHORISM IV.

DIVERS of the ancient heathens, philoſophers, and others, thought the ſun a living, and rational being, and beneficent to man. To which belief, it was congruous they ſhould think, *that when* he produces thoſe lovely colours, for which we admire the rainbow, and the drops of dew, and thoſe brighter ones, that ennoble ſparkling diamonds; *and when* he ſurveys them all, he can behold no other beautiful colours, than thoſe he *gives* them (by his beams) and yet does not ſo part with, but that he ſtill continues the poſſeſſor of them, as well as he is the original and ſource. The application of this is eaſily made, by the Chriſtian *virtuoſo*, who knows that the ſcripture aſcribes to God, to have *the fountain of light*, and teaches, that he is *the former of all things*, that he looks quite thorough them, and not only gives to men *life and breath*, *and all things*, but ſuſtains all his creatures,

(and as the original word imports) enlivens them. Our *virtuoſo*, I ſay, being convinced of all this, muſt alſo be perſuaded, that God, who ſees all things, ſees nothing that is excellent, beautiful, or amiable, among his creatures, of which he is not the giver; and yet either formally, or eminently, (as the ſchools ſpeak) continues the poſſeſſor: whence ſo ancient and venerable a theologer, as the patriarch *Abraham*, more than once, calls him, whom he ſtiles, *the high God, poſſeſſor of heaven and earth.*

APHORISM V.

THE Chriſtian virtuoſo conſiders the rational ſoul, not barely as it guides the motions of that living engine, we call the body, but as it is a kind of impriſoned angel, that bears the image of God, and is capable of knowing, both ourſelves and him; and by a conſciouſneſs of her being his production, is capable of acknowledging, loving, and obeying him, and referring to his glory all the excellencies ſhe diſcovers, both in herſelf, and in the body ſhe is united to; by which juſt reference, ſhe is, by his goodneſs, in his divine Son, made capable of becoming incomparably more knowing, than here ſhe is, and eternally happy with him.

APHORISM VI.

THE rational ſoul, being the image of God, I do not wonder, that it ſhould be inſcrutable. For to have ſo much reſemblance to that incomprehenſible being, as to deſerve the title of his image, it muſt have a nature ſo ſublime, and abſtruſe, that at the ſame time, that our contemplations diſcover its excellency, in compariſon of all corporeal creatures, they diſcover alſo its imperfection, in compariſon of the boundleſs excellencies of its prototype. This may paſs for a truth, not only upon other accounts, but upon this, that, though its nature be very limited, yet, all that belong to it, is far from being perfectly known, even to itſelf. Whereas, notwithſtanding the infiniteneſs of God, in all his attributes, he is but an adequate object to his own infinite intellect; and his Spirit, as the ſcripture teaches us, *ſearches, even the deep things of God*, the innermoſt receſs of that moſt abſtruſe and (to us) ineffable being. Which reflection ought, in my opinion, to inſpire us, both with a high degree of gratitude, for the great honour we have, to be made after God's own image and likeneſs, and with a great depth of humility, when we find, that, beſides the depravedneſs of our wills and affections, the very inferiority of our nature keeps us unable, clearly to comprehend, ſo much as ourſelves, much leſs that adorable being, that, by inhabiting an *unapproachable* light, is, to our dim ſight, *covered with darkneſs*.

APHORISM VII.

As much as, we uſe to wonder at many of the bodies, among which we are placed, yet, in reality [or upon a due inſpection] man himſelf is a greater wonder, than any of the viſible creatures, that he admires. And indeed, a juſt, and well grounded valuation of the dignity of the human nature, may be made a thing, very conducive to the improvement of it. For, when a man ſeriouſly conſiders, *that* God has been pleaſed to make man but *a little lower than the angels*, even in this world, and *that* if he be not wanting to himſelf, and to the divine goodneſs, God will make him *like* or *equal to the angels* in the next world; what may not a nature aſpire and attain

to,

to, that is furniſhed with ſuch endowments, and ſuch hopes? And due reflections on the excellent faculties, organs, and other talents, that God has furniſhed man with, will not only excite and animate him to high and noble attempts, but greatly diſpoſe him to contemn many of thoſe little and ignoble objects, as below him, the fondneſs of which, is wont to engage men in a great part of the vices, and meanneſſes, that diſhonour God and mankind.

APHORISM VIII.

THE uſes, that man may make of creatures, made directly ſubject to his dominion, are chiefly, three.

AND firſt, we may enjoy divers of them by contemplation, as he may, with great pleaſure obſerve the beauty, number, and regular motions of the cœleſtial lights, whether fixed ſtars, or planets, and with great delight perceive himſelf to be able, without moving from the earth he lives on, to meaſure the magnitudes, and diſtances, of thoſe vaſt bodies of the ſun and planets, and, in ſome regard alſo, of the fixed ſtars, compute their ſtupendous ſwiftneſſes, and, nay frame, of all theſe theories, to give fair accounts of thoſe as wonderful phænomena, as ſeemingly contrary motions, eclipſes, *&c.* that quite puzzle ordinary men, and tranſport others with a juſt admiration; man being a rational creature born, and enabled to contemplate the nobleſt objects, among which, doubtleſsly, are thoſe heavenly lights, that ſhine in the cœleſtial part of the world, it may juſtly be reckoned, with great utility, to ſo intelligent a creature, that God has provided ſuch objects, to exerciſe his reaſon, and gratify his nobleſt faculties.

SECONDLY, man may enjoy the world above him, by applying to his uſes creatures, that are by vaſt removes out of his reach, as the ſun, by making it afford him the elevations of the pole, and the azimuths, ſun-dials of all ſorts, enough to make up an art called gnomonicks; burning-glaſſes of differing ſorts, and, ſome of them, of wonderful efficacy; and ſo the moon affords man, the opportunity of determining and predicting, almoſt inceſſant changes of the tides, *&c.* and both the ſun and moon, by their eclipſes, which his reaſon and ſkill teach him, wonderfully to foreſee, and thereby enable him to find, in the moſt diſtant parts of the world, and rectify the longitude of places, the knowledge of which is of great concern, and uſe, both to promote navigation, and ſettle geography, and to rectify the doctrine of time, and correct, even the ancient errors of chronologers.

APHORISM IX.

THE ſtudy of nature, with deſign to promote piety by our attainments, is uſeful, not only for other purpoſes, but to increaſe our knowledge, even of natural things, if not immediately, and preſently, yet in time, and in the iſſue of affairs. For, at leaſt, in the great renovation of the world, and the future ſtate of things, thoſe corporeal creatures, that will then, be knowable, notwithſtanding ſuch a change, as the univerſe will have been ſubject to, ſhall probably be known beſt by thoſe, that have here made their beſt uſe of their former knowledge, which there will, together with their other gifts, be *congruouſly*, as well as *munificently*, rewarded. And then the attainment of a high degree of knowledge, which here, was ſo difficult, may, to the enlightened and enlarged mind, become as *eaſy*, as it will be *ſatisfactory:* and our improved underſtandings, will, with joy, perceive, how much all the knowledge, that we can give ourſelves of God's works, is inferior to what their divine Author can impart to us, of them.

APHO-

APHORISM X.

WHEN, in the future ſtate, it ſhall pleaſe God to make his ſervants happy, it will, probably, be one of the moſt effectual ways of heightening the felicity, which will welcome them, at their firſt arrival in heaven, that God will be pleaſed, as well to *awaken*, as to *enlarge* their faculties. For though we here know, and feel, that we have underſtanding, will, and affections, yet in our mortal ſtate, we do not know *how great things* thoſe faculties, when improved to the height, are capable of performing, and enjoying. And when the munificent rewarder of his faithful ſervants, ſhall pleaſe to ſay, in reference to their intellects, as he did, at the beginning of things, to the benighted water, *Let there be light:* theſe illuminated faculties will make as noble and ſurpriſing, and, perhaps, as various diſcoveries, as in the fourth day of the creation, the angels that were preſent, and rejoiced at the laying of the foundations of the earth, are ſaid to have beheld, with wonder, and praiſed the Divine Author for. And *as* ſome wild *American*, that has never uſed his hands, but about the moſt familiar and ſimple works, can have no *ideas* of the exquiſite and beautiful things, that the hands of an excellent architect, a dextrous mechaniſt, a curious painter, and a ſkilful muſician, may be taught to produce: *ſo* in our preſent ſtate of comparative ignorance, and weakneſs, we do not ſo much as imagine, what excellent attainments, and enjoyments, our imperfect faculties may, by divine illuſtration, and improvements, be rendered capable of, in a future ſtate. And *though* the account, which the ſcripture itſelf gives us, however it repreſents this ſtate, as deſirable enough to deſerve our higheſt ambition, and utmoſt endeavours, does not give us ſuch a repreſentation of that bleſſed condition, as the enjoyment of it will; *yet*, I obſerve two things in the accounts, that are given of it, that ſeem to allow us very elevated, and very vaſt expectations; ſince, as it tells us, concerning *the children of God, that it does not now, appear what they ſhall be*; ſo (nevertheleſs) it adds, *that when* their *Saviour*, or, *that ſtate*, or, *when what we ſhall be* (for the words may be either way rendered) *ſhall appear, we ſhall be like our* Saviour, whoſe aſcended body, is juſtly called a *glorious body*, and whoſe promiſes aſſure us, that *the children of the reſurrection ſhall like, or equal to* the angels. And ſecondly, to heighten yet more, our expectations, the ſame ſcripture teaches us, not to meaſure our future bleſſedneſs, by any thing we here enjoy, or are acquainted with, but to look for things beyond our preſent conceptions; ſince it informs us, that not only, *no eye has ſeen, or ear heard*, but that *it has not entered into the heart of man, what God has reſerved for thoſe* he vouchſafes to favour.

APHORISM XI.

HE that has made ſuch rich (and, in many inſtances, admirable) proviſion, for the ſuſtenance, propagation, and welfare of brute animals, and even inſects themſelves, (to divers of which he has given, not only the neceſſaries, befitting creatures of their kind, but ornaments and beauty too) may very rationally be preſumed, to be both able, and diſpoſed, to furniſh his crowned ſervants munificently, with all that may be requiſite to entertain, and improve their enlarged and enlightened faculties, with the moſt worthy and moſt ſuitable objects, and with the other advantages, becoming the glorious ſtate of thoſe happy ſaints, that are not only the nobleſt of his viſible works, but the brethren, and reſemblers of his divine, and moſt beloved Son, whom

on that ſcore he has not only dignified in their nature, but crowned with his ſupernatural rewards.

To the ſecond motive, to thank and love God, *viz.* what *he will do for man*, if he be pious, belongs the conſideration, 1ſt, Of greater diſcoveries of the nature and glory of God. 2dly, The rectitude, the improvement, and the enlargement of his faculties, underſtanding, will, and affections. 3dly, The great diſcoveries that will be made to man, of the nature of other creatures, and of the ways by which they themſelves act, and are by God governed. 4thly, The æthereal bodies, which the ſoul will then inhabit. 5thly, The free converſation with other juſt men, and with the good angels, and their glorious head. 6thly, An aſſurance that all this felicity ſhall laſt for ever.

PROPOSITION II.

THAT a man's own experience (eaſy to be ſeconded by that of *others*) may diſcover unto him, the excellency, ſatisfactorineſs, and the advantageouſneſs of thoſe graces, and virtues, that are recommended by Chriſtianity.

To clear the way, for divers paſſages of the enſuing diſcourſe, I ſhall, in this place, obſerve, that though it be a very common error, yet, it is one, that I think very prejudicial, not only to phyſicks, but to divers things, that are of a moral nature, to ſuppoſe, that no experience, or at leaſt none conſiderable, (or uſeful) can be had, but of things, that are *without* us; that is, of external things, and their operations upon one another, and upon our bodies. Whereas, indeed, divers of the moſt certain, and perhaps of the moſt important notices, we have, by experience, are afforded us, by the *internal* operations of our own faculties, and the perceptions we have, of what paſſes within ourſelves. So that, for an experimental knowledge of ſeveral things, that highly concern us, we need, neither mathematical inſtruments, nor chemical furnaces, but only a due attention to thoſe things, that are tranſacted within our own ſelves, and make impreſſions on us, whereto we can ſcarce avoid the finding of ourſelves conſcious. For, as the mind is the true ſeat of delight, and grief, happineſs, and miſery; ſo it is, as the mind is pleaſingly, or ungratefully affected, that we are all well, or ill ſatisfied with the ſtate we are in; and all outward things are conſiderable to us, but as they are capable to pleaſe, or diſſatisfy the *mind*. And the delights of this, may be oftentimes great, notwithſtanding the abſence, or perhaps the loſs, of thoſe external goods, that otherwiſe are wont, eſpecially, to pleaſe her, if, at the ſame time, there be excited in her, very pleaſing perceptions; though theſe proceed not from the uſual outward cauſes, but from any other, and particularly from the operations, and impreſſions, of her own formerly diſregarded faculties.

THE happy experience of a good and religious man, will convince him, that the contentment, and other advantages, accruing from a ſerious courſe of piety and virtue, are exceeding great and valuable, and do much ſurpaſs, in true and intrinſick worth, the ſinful pleaſures, that a contrary courſe affords thoſe that chuſe it.

I MENTION the *experience* of the perſon, I ſpeak of, in ſuch a way, as does already ſuppoſe him *good* and religious, for two reaſons. The *firſt*, becauſe the ſatisfaction, that ſuch perſons receive, upon the account of being ſo, can ſcarce be fully known, but by a man's own perſonal trial, which makes him feel ſuch pure and manly delights, in obeying the laws of his God, and the dictates of his reaſon, and his conſcience, that thoſe, who have not felt the like, cannot have any adequate ideas, or genuine reliſhes of them: theſe being pleaſures, that flowing from God himſelf, and being

being poſſeſſed immediately by the rational ſoul, as marks of his paternal love, and recompences of the nobleſt kind of actions, may juſtly be ſuppoſed to be peculiar, as well in their degree of ſweetneſs, as in their excellency of nature.

AND *ſecondly*, becauſe, that till a man has made ſome good progreſs in a Chriſtian courſe, he is not, ſufficiently, capable of enjoying and reliſhing the contentments of it, by reaſon of the difficulties, that men uſually find, eſpecially at the beginning, to reſiſt and ſurmount thoſe vicious habitudes, unruly paſſions, and ſenſual luſts, the triumph over which, and their conſtant ſubjection to the laws of God, and reaſon, make up a great and noble part of the true Chriſtian's pleaſures.

AND now, having declared, why, in my expreſſions, I ſuppoſed the good man, I meant to ſpeak of, to be experimentally ſuch; my next taſk muſt be, to ſhew, that the condition of ſuch a perſon, is really very deſirable, as upon other accounts, ſo, eſpecially, upon that of the *contentment* and *advantages*, deſervedly, belonging to it.

THAT the laws of Chriſtianity, if duly obeyed, are very advantageous to the obſerver, will be eaſily granted, if we conſider, that they are given us by *God*, who is the author of our nature, and, conſequently, underſtands it better, than either other directors, or we ourſelves can do; and by his divine Son, who ſo loved mankind, that he left heaven to die for men, and gave them in his death, and his life, a moſt perfect example of the obedience he requires of them. And whereas other legiſlators, being intereſted perſons, and having need of their ſubjects performances, are wont to frame their laws with more regard to their own advantages, than theirs, on whom they impoſe them: God, who is *ſelf-ſufficient*, and needs no man's ſervices, and whoſe munificence, and goodneſs, are inexhauſtible, and exuberant, gives us laws ſo admirably framed for our own good, that, it is as much our advantage, as our duty, to obey them: ſince our obedience, both highly improves us at preſent, and qualifies us, through his divine bounty, both to obtain future rewards, and to reliſh them. So that by enjoining us to ſtudy the myſteries of the goſpel, and to exerciſe ourſelves in the virtues it enjoins; he prepares us for a full fruition of the bleſſed ſtate, he deſigns us; and does, in St. *Paul*'s phraſe, make us *meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the ſaints in light*; which previous aptitude will very much endear it to us: as when a muſician, by teaching his ſon his art, makes the gifts of his lutes, and other muſical inſtruments, much more welcome and acceptable to him, than if he had given him them, without having inſtructed him in muſick. * * *

AGAINST what has been diſcourſed, of the advantages, and joys of a good and pious life, I know there may be made an objection, which ſeems to be of very great weight, becauſe it is taken from the confeſſion, of one of the greateſt preachers, and patterns of Chriſtian piety, that any age hath afforded us. For no leſs a perſon than the apoſtle St. *Paul* himſelf acknowledges, or rather aſſerts, that *if in this life only, we have hope in Chriſt, we are of all men, the moſt miſerable.* 1 Cor. xv. 19.

BUT, to this ſpecious objection, I have three things to return by way of anſwer.

FOR, *firſt*, I conſider, that this is not an univerſal affirmation concerning pious Chriſtians, in all ages and places, but is to be limited, by circumſtances. For at that time indeed, the ſincere and conſtant profeſſors of the Chriſtian religion, were ſadly expoſed, not only to ſcandals and injuries, but, in many places, to open perſecution, partly from the Gentiles, and more, from the unbelieving *Jews*, and ſome mungrel Chriſtians, that (to ſave their own ſtakes) joined with them in oppreſſing the orthodox. But though for theſe, and the like reaſons, the ſtate of the ſincerely pious was, when St. *Paul* wrote that epiſtle, expoſed to great diſtreſſes and dangers; yet it will not follow, that what was then truly ſaid, may be juſtly extended to all times and places, without excepting thoſe, where kings and other magiſtrates being

Chriſtians, and orthodox, make it their buſineſs to protect, and encourage thoſe that are ſo too, thereby endeavouring to accompliſh the prophecy of *Iſaiah*, that there ſhould
Iſa. xlix. 23. come a time, when the people of God ſhould have *kings for their nurſing fathers, and queens for their nurſing mothers.*

SECONDLY, I conſider, that this text is not ſo fitly rendered, as I think it may, and ought to be. For in my apprehenſion, the words will not only *bear*, but ſeem to *require* another ſenſe, than our tranſlation gives them. For it ſeems more proper to ſay, that we have hope in Chriſt in this life, than in the next; for here, as the ſame
2 Cor. v. 7. apoſtle ſpeaks, *we live by faith, and not by ſight*, but after this mortal life is ended, *hope* will be turned into certainty and *fruition*, according to what the ſame writer, elſewhere, ſays—*hope that is ſeen, is not hope; for what a man ſeeth, why doth he yet hope for?* Wherefore I would rather render the *Greek* particle ἐν, by *for*, than by *in*.

FOR I conſider, that the *Hebrew* prefix ב, that anſwers to it, does in ſeveral texts ſignify *for*, and import the impulſive cauſe, or end of the action: as when *Jacob*
Gen. xxix. 18. ſays to *Laban*, *I will ſerve thee ſeven years, for Rachel thy younger daughter*, and the
Ver. 20, 25. ſame expreſſion is uſed, not only, in two other places, in the ſame chapter, but in
Hoſ. xii. 12 that paſſage of the prophet *Hoſea*, in which the ſame ſtory is referred to, where it is ſaid, that *Iſrael ſerved for a wife, and for a wife he kept ſheep*; what our tranſlators have, according to the exigency of the ſenſe, juſtly rendered *for*, is in both places, in the original, the ſame particle we are now ſpeaking of, which is alſo employed, in the like ſenſe, in divers other texts of the old teſtament. And ſince (as it hath been well obſerved by ſome modern criticks) the *Greek* penmen of the new teſtament, being themſelves *Hebrews*, did very much hebraize, in many parts of their writings; it need not be thought ſtrange, if, in ſome paſſages of the new teſtament, they uſe the particle in the ſame ſenſe with the *Hebrew*, to which it moſt commonly anſwers, and employ it to expreſs, ſometimes, the impulſive cauſe, and, ſometimes, the final cauſe, or thing aimed at, (which itſelf is alſo a motive;) and that the propoſition will bear this ſenſe, may appear by ſeveral texts, (ſome of them cited in the margin) and, among others, by that known paſſage in St. *Matthew*, where our Saviour ſpeaks
Matt. vi. 7. thus, to his diſciples, *When ye pray, uſe not vain repetitions, as the heathen do, for they think that they ſhall be heard for their much ſpeaking.* And that which more induced me to vary from common tranſlators of this text, was, that whereas it is manifeſt enough, that the penmen of the new teſtament, do, in their *Greek*, very much follow the dialect of the *Septuagint*, whoſe verſion of the old teſtament was, generally, uſed in the apoſtolick times, I remembered, that I found the *Greek* particle employed, by thoſe interpreters, in the very ſame ſenſe, that I would render it in: for in *Hoſea* (xii. 12.) where the prophet ſpeaks of *Jacob*'s flight into *Syria*, he ſays, according to the *Hebrew* particle, that I lately obſerved to have been uſed in that very ſtory, that *Iſrael* ſerved *for* a wife. And according to this rendering of St. *Paul*'s expreſſion, the ſenſe of it will be, that if for this life only, (that is, for the ſake, or on the account of the good things of this life, that we receive, or can expect) we have hope in Chriſt, we are the miſerableſt of men.

I CONSIDER, in the third and laſt place, that though, if a Chriſtian's hope did not reach beyond the grave, but were terminated in the things he is like to meet with, in this life, Chriſtianity, eſpecially under ſharp perſecutions, would be but a melancholy religion: yet, it cannot thence be inferred, that it is ſo to thoſe, whoſe hopes reach, not only beyond the grave, but as far as eternity itſelf. For though we ſhould ſuppoſe, (in ſpite of the great reaſon we have to the contrary) that all thoſe *great and precious promiſes*, as the ſcripture calls them, which are made in the goſpel, to

thoſe

thoſe, that heartily believe, and obey it, ſhould prove illuſory in the event; yet, as long as a Chriſtian does not believe, or ſo much as ſuſpect, that they will ever deceive him, the hope, and expectation of no leſs than heavenly joys, and endleſs happineſs, in a future ſtate, will not only allay, but ſweeten all his hardſhips, and ſufferings, in this life. For the ſupport, and comfort, we receive from things, conſidered barely as future, flow from our hope, as it is hope, without conſidering, whether it may, or may not, deceive us: and if the objects of that hope be not to be poſſeſſed, but in the life to come, a Chriſtian ſhall not find the fruſtration of that hope, till he be dead, and conſequently may enjoy the pleaſures, that attend ſuch a hope, as long as this life laſts, and ſo cannot be thought one of the miſerableſt men in the world. There have been examples in our age, and one in our nation, of perſons, that being heirs to crowns, did yet travel diſguiſed in foreign countries, like thoſe private men that accompanied them. But though one of theſe princes had been caſt away, or had died in his return, yet, it will ſcarce be doubted, but that, whilſt he travelled *incognito* towards the kingdom, he looked on, as his patrimony, the expectation of ſo great and dazzling a thing, as a crown, made him, during the hardſhips of his journey, far more happy, than thoſe that accompanied him in it, without being animated by any ſuch hope. And to ſuch a purpoſe, I remember the ſcripture affords us a real inſtance, in the ſtory of *Jacob* and *Rachel*. For, though he ſerved the churliſh *Laban*, ſeven years for the lovely *Rachel*, and was in the end deceived, and put off with blear-eyed *Leah*, yet, the value he had for the beautiful object of his paſſion, and the expectation of poſſeſſing her at laſt, as the recompence of his ſervice, did ſo alleviate all his burdens, and refreſh him in all his toils, that the text ſays, the ſeven years he ſerved, for the beloved object, *ſeemed to him but a few days.* Gen. xxix. 20.

THE natural reſult of the three foregoing conſiderations, will be this, that the paſſage of St. *Paul* ought to be underſtood, in another ſenſe, than that which is ſuppoſed in the objection; and ſo, that it ought not to hinder us from believing, what thouſands have found true, *viz.* that ſincere Chriſtians may, even in this life, be far from being miſerable: not to add, that they may enjoy more real and ſolid contentment in this world, than thoſe, that neither ſeek, nor expect it, any where elſe. * * *

APHORISM.

As there is a far greater pleaſure given to a novice in muſick, when he is taught to play better and better upon a lute, than when he is preſented with viols, virginals, and other inſtruments, that he knows not how to make uſe of; ſo one, that has the virtue of making the beſt uſe of a ſmall fortune, may enjoy more true contentment in it, than one that is an unſkilful, and diſorderly poſſeſſor of great external riches.

PROPOSITION III.

THAT perſonal experience (as well as vicarious) may convince a man of the evils of differing kinds, that attend a vicious courſe of life, and even particular ſins, and of the reſiſtibleneſs of temptations to them.

THE main inconveniencies of a vicious, and ſinful courſe of life are, referable; 1. *To* the mind, or ſoul, both as it is endowed with underſtanding, and will, and as it is the principle, and ought to be the moderator of the affections. 2. *To* the body, in point of health, *&c.* 3. *To* a man's fortune, or outward ſtate, and that in divers regards.

regards. 4. *To* a man's reputation, or eſteem, among men. 5. *To* his poſterity (if he have any) and 6. *To* the everlaſting ſtate, or condition, of his ſoul.

BESIDES the things, that are more commonly, and very juſtly employed, to diſſuade men from vicious courſes, and eſpecially from ſuch as waſte their conſciences, or blaſt their reputations, there are two things, that though not wont to be much inſiſted on, have, I confeſs, ſtill appeared of great weight to me, to withhold men from thoſe habitudes, or even ſingle actions, that are either very *criminal*, or very *ſcandalous*. For I conſider, that a *heinous* ſin is ſo provoking to the moſt holy God, who, as the ſcripture ſpeaks, *is of purer eyes than to behold iniquity*, without abhorrence, that though, upon a ſincere repentance, a man may be ſo far pardoned, as to be reſcued from eternal torments, in another life; yet to keep him under, a ſenſe, and penitently mindful of his tranſgreſſions, he may be ſo chaſtiſed in this life, as frequently to find *it a bitter thing*, to have thus provoked his moſt juſt and ſovereign maſter. And as aſtrologers tell us, that very great eclipſes do miſchief, not only, whilſt the darkneſs does manifeſtly laſt, but by a malevolent influence, that continues a great while longer: ſo we may juſtly fear, that a heinous offence, will not only, for the preſent intercept the *light of God's countenance*, (*which is better than life*) but may, for a long time after, (and, perhaps, for all our days) expoſe us to inflictions, that, only his gracious deſigns in them, diſtinguiſhes from heavy puniſhments. To which reflection, I may accommodate that remark, of divers of the *Jewiſh Rabbies*, who were wont to ſay, that *no miſchief falls upon Iſrael, in which there is not a mixture of the* Exod. xxxii. 34. *golden calf*; according to that paſſage in *Exodus*, where it is ſaid, *nevertheleſs, in the day when I viſit, I will viſit their ſin upon them* i. e. *when I puniſh other offences, I will further puniſh this.*

AND we may obſerve, that though, upon *David*'s ſolemn repentance, and humiliation, his life was ſpared, and he was reconciled to God; yet the death of *Uriah* was followed by that of the child, *David* was ſo concerned for, and his ſubſequent life, was little more, than a ſeries of afflictions, and thoſe ſuch, as, for the moſt part, were fit to remind him of his faults.

AND as for *very ſcandalous* ſins, *beſides* that they do ſo highly offend God, that after theſe, as we lately obſerved of crimes, even true repentance does not always, ſecure the penitent from ſmarting for them, in this life; as when *David* was forgiven, both his *adultery* and his *murder*, he was chaſtiſed for his *ſcandals*; beſides this (I ſay) I conſider, that though, after ſuch a ſin, I ſhould be pardoned myſelf, yet, it is not only poſſible, but probable, that ſome or other, if not many, of thoſe that my bad example, or corrupt diſcourſes, or writings, may have perverted, may not be ſo happy as I, but die without repentance, and, conſequently, without human poſſibility of ſalvation. And, ſince we have ſeveral examples of mere moral men, endowed, but with an ordinary meaſure of good nature, who having, on ſlight provocations, deſtroyed men in duels, or but caſually, or without deſign, killed ſome body in hunting, or otherwiſe, have been ſo ſenſible of a miſchief they did by miſtake, or miſchance, as to deplore it all their lives: with what trouble and regret, ought I to look back, upon a ſcandalous action, that was not only ſinful in itſelf, but naturally tended to make others ſo, and made me criminally acceſſary to the eternal ruin, perhaps, of my neareſt and moſt familiar friends, who may, for aught I know, be curſing me, in a ſtate of unſpeakable miſery, and themſelves, for having ſuffered me, to have ſo much influence on them. So that if we could think, that grief could have acceſs to heaven, (for we are taught, that there is *fulneſs of joy*, and that *all tears ſhall be wiped from their eyes*) a good man might ſurmiſe, that his happineſs would, even there, be much allayed, by the remembrance of the miſchief he drew

on

on others. And therefore I look upon it, as one of the chief favours vouchſafed me, by the divine goodneſs, that I have been heard, when in my youth, I often made the *Pſalmiſt*'s prayer, *to be kept from preſumptuous ſins*, which uſually prove *ſcandalous* ones too. * * *

* * * * * ANOTHER advantage, and that no ſmall one, accrues to our experimentarian, towards being virtuous, and religious, from his genius, and way of philoſophiſing. For theſe incline, and accuſtom him to ſlight and reject popular opinions, and to judge of things by ſolid and intrinſick arguments, not the prejudices, and authority of the moſt. He that ſearcheth into nature, with the freedom, as well as induſtry, that becomes a philoſopher, will diſcover ſo many vulgar errors, as will juſtly make him very backward to believe an opinion true, becauſe it is vulgar. And he will prefer one good argument, or clear experiment, to the unanimous ſuffrages, not only of a multitude of plebeian judges, but of men of great titles, and, perhaps, reputation too: ſince, even ſuch may greatly miſtake, either for want of right principles, or for want of attentively and impartially conſidering them. Now it will be eaſily granted by him, that duly obſerves what paſſeth in the world, that a great deal of the vice and irreligion, that is too frequently to be met with among men, proceeds from the wrong eſtimates, that they make of things. * * *

PROPOSITION IV.

THAT the ſame kind of experience may aſſure him of the practical poſſibility, of performing the duties and functions of a Chriſtian, by the help of thoſe aſſiſtances, that God gives the faithful implorers of them, to enable them to obey, and pleaſe him.

THE chief things, that render the laws of Chriſtianity practicable, are referable to theſe heads; *The* internal advantages, that piety and virtue bring to their embracers, (to which belong the ſerenity of mind, the peace of conſcience, and the joys of a good one, *&c.*) *The* aſſiſtances of the holy Spirit, both in our actings and ſufferings for religion. *The* external or ſecular advantages of a virtuous life, ſuch as frugality, health, belovedneſs, reputation, *&c.* to which may be referred, *the* advantages that the publick receives from the practice of virtue, as alſo *the* immunity from the inconveniencies that attend vice. And to all this, may be added, *the* eaſineſs that cuſtom brings to all ſuch practices, as we are ſpeaking of, (ſo that the advantages of virtue may be conſidered, either abſolutely, or reſpectively, and in the latter ſenſe, much of the following ſection may be accommodated to them.) Laſtly, to this ſection belongs *the* well grounded hope, and expectation of an eternal and ineſtimable reward.

THE benefits and advantages of a virtuous and religious life, and the miſchiefs and inconveniencies that attend a contrary one, are ſo many, and ſo great, and ſome of them, ſo conſpicuous, and acknowledged, that it would be hard for conſidering men, not to prefer the former courſe of life, before the latter, if they were not deterred by an apprehenſion, *That the difficulties and hardſhips that attend a Chriſtian life, make it ſcarce, if at all, practicable.*

To ſurmount this great prejudice, (than which, perhaps, there is hardly any one, that has kept off greater numbers from turning votaries to real goodneſs) a perſon inclined to make trials of all ſuch things as may be innocently tried, and are very beneficial, if they ſucceed, has a great and peculiar diſpoſition. For the difficulties that attend a pious and virtuous life, though, I confeſs, they are not inconſiderable, yet really they are not near ſo formidable, as moſt men imagine them; and a great part

part of their ſtrength lies in the weakneſs, and faintneſs, of our reſolutions, and endeavours, to ſurmount them. And therefore, he that reſolvedly enters upon a virtuous courſe of life, will, by happy experience, be encouraged to proſecute it; becauſe in practiſing virtue, both moral and Chriſtian, as in learning to play upon the lute, or ſome other muſical inſtrument, exerciſe does daily, both leſſen the difficulty, and increaſe the pleaſure. And he, that upon the motives ſuggeſted by the Chriſtian religion, and enfranchiſed by reaſon, ſhall reſolutely engage in a courſe of piety, will experimentally find himſelf, both animated, and ſtrengthened to proceed, by the ſeveral helps and encouragements contained, and promiſed in the holy ſcriptures, and the writings of the beſt philoſophers. Of which encouragements, and aids, the chief and the only, I ſhall touch upon, are thoſe that follow, (*viz.*) our *obligation* to obey God and reaſon; the *promiſes* contained in his holy word; the *inward aſſiſtances* of his holy Spirit; and the *advantages* which, in the nature of the thing, accrue from the practice of real goodneſs. * *

I KNOW it may, and I doubt not will, by many be objected, that they cannot believe the acquiſition of virtue, and piety, to be ſo delightful, as we pretend: ſince one cannot, without offering a very great, and *painful* violence to himſelf, forego the pleaſures, that inclination, and cuſtom, have endeared to him, and exchange them for the hardſhips, whereto religion expoſes its embracers. Nor is it poſſible, that a man ſhould take much *delight* in the actions of virtue, which, for the moſt part, croſs our affections, or our intereſts.

To anſwer this twofold objection, by degrees, I ſhall begin with frankly acknowledging, that the firſt ſteps, that are made by a reclaimed ſinner, are really uneaſy enough. But that proceeds not barely, from the amiable nature of the things, he forſakes; but in great part from the difficulty of leaving off an inveterate cuſtom, though, perhaps, that cuſtom itſelf, be the chief thing, that endears the thing forſaken. Of which we have a notable inſtance, in thoſe that take tobacco; who when they firſt begin, find it a drug very unpleaſant and nauſeous, ſo that it uſually makes them very ſick, and apt to vomit: but when cuſtom hath made it familiar to them, few can leave it off, without much uneaſineſs; ſo that by-ſtanders are tempted to think them bewitched, when they ſee them ſo loth to part with ſo ill ſcented a weed. We muſt not therefore wonder, or be diſcouraged, if at the entrance into a virtuous courſe, we meet with ſome trouble, and uneaſineſs; ſince as theſe proceed chiefly from the difficulty, that uſually attends the changing of a long cuſtom, though for a better; ſo, when once this cuſtom is forſaken, and brought into diſuſe, and a contrary one introduced, in its place, the advantages virtue has of vice, in the very nature of the thing, will daily render it leſs troubleſome, both further to forſake vicious cuſtoms, and to follow virtuous ones. And indeed, it is one of the greateſt pieces of wiſdom, to reſolve and attempt betimes, to acquire good habitudes; ſince thoſe, which reaſon approves, as moſt eligible, cuſtom will render practicable, and conſcience delightful too. And this rule is ſignally applicable to our caſe. For, in the exerciſe of piety, and virtue, not only every new act is attended with that increaſing facility, that flows from cuſtom, as it is cuſtom, but (through the goodneſs of God) it is alſo rewarded, and encouraged with an increaſe of divine grace, and ſtrength; ſo that the eaſineſs is increaſed, and, perhaps, turned into delight, by the freſh influences of the holy Spirit, and the renewed applauſes of a good conſcience. And this is the firſt part of my intended anſwer to the lately propoſed objection.

But

BUT I ſhall further repreſent, as the ſecond, and chief part of the ſame anſwer, that, in my opinion, ſenſualiſts much miſtake, when they judge of the hardſhips and contentments of a pious man, by what themſelves would feel, if they were to abſtain from all the things he forbears, and do all the acts of virtue he performs. For the pleaſantneſs (and the like may be ſaid, *mutatis mutandis*, of the uneaſineſs) of human actions, is not an abſolute, but a relative, or reſpective thing, and depends upon the congruity, or ſuitableneſs, betwixt the object, and the faculty, or between the action itſelf, and the diſpoſition of the agent. * * *

THOUGH that were true, (which I do not grant it to be) which the libertines pretend, when they ſay, that they do not really find any laſhes of conſcience, to diſturb the enjoyment of their forbidden pleaſures; yet it would not follow, that a virtuous man, whoſe faculties are not depraved by bad education, ill company, or vicious habitudes, may not receive a great deal of joy and contentment in the acquiſition of truth, and the practice of virtue. For there being in rightly diſpoſed minds, natural notices of truth, and error, and of moral rectitude, and pravity, accompanied with an innate propenſity to purſue the one, and avoid the other: ſuch a man cannot duly exerciſe his faculties, in order to ſuch ends, without being internally recompenſed with a delightful ſenſe of having done, what became him, as a rational creature. And ſenſualiſts have as little right to undervalue ſuch a perſon, for ſo employing himſelf, to his own juſtifiable ſatisfaction, as a man, that has a dull ear, and is ignorant of muſick, has to cenſure him that having a good ear, and a ſtrong inclination to muſick, takes the pains to learn the rules of that art, and to tune a lute, invited by the pleaſure of knowledge, and the agreeable ſenſe of melodious harmony. * * *

PROPOSITION V.

THAT both a man's own, and other mens experience, may oblige his aſſent to the truth of what the ſcripture teacheth of the good and bad eſtate of the pious, and the wicked.

The heads of the fifth propoſition.

1. IT is deplored and reprehended, that Chriſtian virtuoſi, as well as other *believers*, ſhould not be more concerned and aſſiduous ſtudiers of the ſcriptures, than moſt of them are, and ſhould not make particular uſe and application of the advantageous truths, it may afford them. 2. The ſcripture, well conſidered and methodiſed, contains a far more copious, as well as better collection, or ſyſtem of truths, uſeful to the purpoſes of good and ſtudious men, than even they, are wont to be aware of. 3. That the author of the ſcripture, being alſo that of mankind, and the great diſcerner of hearts, and governor, as well as lover of men, has given us, in the ſacred records, the trueſt judgments, inſtances, and examples, of what is really, and has actually been found good, or bad, for man, that can be met with any where. And it is a ſtrange, as well as ſad perverſeneſs, that we, that believe divers things, that are above, and others, that ſeem contrary to reaſon, and prudence, upon the ſame authority, aſſent to aſſertions, about the vanity of the world, and other moral things, which our reaſon cloſes with, and all the experience we have, bears witneſs to, and confirms.

THE careleſſneſs, or ignorance of men, keeps moſt of them from diſcovering, as well in the *written*, as in the *created* book of God, many excellent footſteps, and, as it were, ſignatures of the divine Author's wiſdom and goodneſs, that a more ſkil-

ful and attentive ſurvey will enable us to diſcover. And thus a butcher kills and divides into pieces, ſheep and oxen, perhaps a thouſand times, and takes the calf out of the cow's belly, without ever diſcovering any thing of that wonderful contrivance, that a good anatomiſt will, by ſkilfully diſſecting the ſame animals, take notice of, and much more, without perceiving in the womb, and in the humours, and veſſels wherewith it ſupplies the *fœtus*, that admirable œconomy, whereby the *ſpecies* is propagated. And thus houſe-wives take care of the hatching of the eggs, without obſerving any thing conſiderable of the excellent method, that nature follows in the formation of chickens, which yet, has given no leſs wonder, than exerciſe, to thoſe great enquirers, *Ariſtotle*, *Fabricius ab aqua pendente*, and our famous *Harvey*. And thus moſt readers, and even many learned men, peruſe the ſcripture ſo ſlightly, and deſultorily, that ſo tranſient and ſuperficial a view makes them overlook in it, a multitude of excellent and inſtructive things, and leaves them great ſtrangers to thoſe myſterious harmonies, and ſymmetries, that, lying deep, are leſs obvious. Whereas a diligent and devout peruſer, furniſhed with the original languages, and other uſeful parts of learning, by attentively and aſſiduouſly reading thoſe excellent writings, and carefully comparing place with place, phraſe with phraſe, and, in ſhort, adding one help of interpretation to another, may diſcover excellent and myſterious truths, that are wholly miſſed by vulgar readers; and are, ſome of them, ſo ſublime, ſo important, and ſo delightful, that his admiration of them will leſſen that which many conceive, at St. *Peter*'s ſaying, of the œconomy and myſteries of the goſpel, that *the angels* themſelves *deſire to pry into them.*

AND, on this occaſion, give me leave to offer to you a notion, which, perhaps, you have not met with, and which yet may, I hope, be uſeful to my preſent purpoſe. And it is this, that I obſerve the generality of Chriſtians (I wiſh I could not add of divines too) are wont to look upon the ſcripture as a repoſitory of articles of faith, and laws of life, without ſufficiently conſidering it as a book, that contains ſuch things, as being orderly laid together, would make up a body of Chriſtian morals, far more uſeful to a believer, than the *Ariſtotelian*, or other heathen ethicks. For the holy ſcripture does not only lay down excellent rules, as well for the regulation of the courſe of our lives in general, as for the practice of particular virtues, and that in great variety of circumſtances; but it alſo contains (which is what I would chiefly obſerve) ſuch rational arguments, and ſtrong motives to piety, and virtue, and affords ſuch great *comforts*, and *ſupports*, in the hardſhips, whereto they may expoſe us, together with ſuch powerful *helps* to perform what it directs, and obtain what it promiſes, as, though they are peculiar to the Chriſtian religion, are more excellent and engaging, than all that philoſophy hath been able to afford us. And though I deny not, that ſome of the heathen moraliſts have, here and there, glanced at ſome of the ſame things that are employed, to the like purpoſes, in the ſcripture, yet, beſides that, it is but of ſome of thoſe things, that this can be truly ſaid; beſides this, I ſay, thoſe very particulars are, by the heathen writers, rather touched upon, than inſiſted on, and ſeem to have been lighted on, almoſt by chance, being mentioned, among other things, without having any peculiar ſtreſs laid upon them, by their authors, who ſeem not to have known the weight, and worth of them; whereas they are, in ſcripture, inſiſted on and improved, being inculcated with that earneſtneſs, that obliges the Chriſtian reader to take notice of them, as things, whoſe importance makes them deſerve a particular attention, and regard: the Chriſtian re-
1 Tim. vi. 3. ligion is juſtly ſtiled by St. *Paul*, *The doctrine, which is according to godlineſs.* For it is indeed, a doctrine mainly deſigned, and excellently contrived, for the promoting of

of true piety, and virtue, in the world. In order to which end, it affords us, not only excellent precepts, ſhining examples, pathetical exhortations, ſweet conſolations, great and precious promiſes, and powerful (though ſecret) aſſiſtances: but the very myſteries of Chriſtianity, though their chief office ſeem to be, to enlighten and inform the underſtanding, yet have, moſt of them, a direct influence upon the will, and great tendency to make men good, reſembling the pillars of cloud, and of fire, in the wilderneſs, that were not only to be gazed on, as rare and wonderful things, but both were intended, and did happily ſerve, to lead the *Iſraelites*, that followed that cœleſtial guide, to the bleſſed land of *Canaan*, the type of heaven.

* * * AND here I ſhall add, that, in my opinion, it ought much to recommend many of the things, that revelation diſcovers to us, that they are congruous, and, if I may ſo ſpeak, ſymmetrical, to what reaſon itſelf teaches us; and this ſupernatural light, does not only confirm, but advance and compleat, the truths diſcoverable by the light of nature. For God has ſo excellently ordered the diſcoveries he makes of theological truths, by mere reaſon, and by the holy ſcriptures, that what revelation ſuperadds to reaſon, does, both very well agree with it, and ſupply what was wanting to it, that from them both, might reſult as compleat a body of theological verities, as is either neceſſary, or fit for us, to have, in our mortal ſtate. *That* mankind had a beginning, though denied by *Ariſtotle*, and his followers, was affirmed by, the greater part of the heathen philoſophers, which yet, ſome of them referred, either to chance, with the *Epicureans*, or to ſome other way, liable to many phyſical objections, and very derogatory to the dignity of mankind. But, when the ſcripture teaches, *that* the whole race of men proceeded from one man and one woman; *that* this firſt woman herſelf, was taken from the ſide of the firſt man; *that* theſe were not made, like the reſt of the creatures, by a ſimple *fiat*, but by a peculiar and more immediate operation of God, and, as it were, a conſultation; *that* the firſt pair was not created, till after the reſt of the world was finiſhed, and fitted to receive them; *that* their ſtrict union in marriage, was not the effect of appetite, but made by the inſtitution of God himſelf; *that* he, by an expreſs commiſſion, made them lords of the terraqueous globe, and all the living creatures, it is peopled with, and *that* they knew neither ſickneſs, war, ſhame, nor toil, till they had offended their Maker, and Benefactor, by tranſgreſſing that ſingle, and eaſy law he had preſcribed them, and endowed them with a free will to keep; when, I ſay, theſe, and other particulars, are made known to us by divine revelation, reaſon well perceives, that they not only very well agree with, what men believed upon the ſcore of reaſon, *viz. that* man had a beginning; *that* he is of a nobler nature than other animals; *that* God is pleaſed to concern himſelf for him, and exerciſe peculiar acts of providence about him; and *that* his ſufferings proceed from his own faults; but the ſame revelation, that confirms theſe perſuaſions, does, by adding thoſe other circumſtances, I have been mentioning, afford reaſon materials, wherewithal to make up theſe perſuaſions, into an *account of the origin of mankind*, that agrees far better with the nature of things, the providence, juſtice, and goodneſs of God, and the dignity, and yet obligations and dependency of mankind, than any of the hypotheſes of the heathen philoſophers, and prieſts. The time, at which, we may collect from the ſacred ſtory, the world was made, if it had been known to the Ethnic hiſtorians, and philoſophers, might eaſily have prevented divers of their erroneous, and extravagant conceits; and the hiſtory of *Noah*'s flood, ſeems to afford a better account, not only of ſundry, hiſtorical, and political, but of divers natural phænomena, than any, or all, of the heathen writers have left us. And as the account, given in the ſcripture, of the creation of man by God, ſo, that, which it delivers of his redemption from his lapſed ſtate, by the Son of God,

exhibits another guess contrivance, than men are usually, aware of, or, than can be here proposed, in few words: the salvation of man being indeed undertaken, and managed, in a way highly rational, and upon terms, agreeable to the justice, honour, and goodness of God, and to man's nature, condition, duty, and aims, (as, on some other occasion, may be declared.) At present, what I mainly drive at, may, methinks, be somewhat illustrated, by comparing the object of theology, to a book of excellent notions and secrets, but written in cyphers; and the knowledge of divine things, conferred by bare philosophy, to a very imperfect key; consisting of not half the letters of the alphabet: for though, by the help of this, a man may make a shift to understand, here and there, many whole words, that consist of such letters, as his key answers to, and may perchance, on the same account, understand some few short and scattered sentences, and other periods; yet the whole scope, and contrivance of the book, and many of the principal things, contained in it, he must be ignorant of: but revelation is like the remaining part of the key, which compleats the other; and which, when he is once possessed of, he will not only learn, many new truths, and understand satisfactorily, many passages, which he but doubtingly, guessed at before; but, which is the main thing in our comparison, he will clearly perceive, that what he has last discovered, both perfectly agrees with what he had learned before, and compleats what is wanted, to make up a symmetrical piece, worthy of the author. * * *

* * * IN the scripture are contained, both obligations, and other motives, (as rules, examples, and encouragements) to piety, and virtue, and diffuasives from the contrary, peculiar to the Christian religion. St. *Paul* exhorts the *Corinthians*, to *glorify God, both in their bodies, and in their spirits*; (which two constitute the whole man) upon these grounds, *that they were not their own* proprietors, but *were bought with a price*; so that their *bodies, and their spirits, were God's*, and therefore ought to be employed, in things that tended to his glory. Another obligation, and motive to piety, is the sense, that Christians ought to have, of the great honour of being the adopted sons of God, *see* (says St. *John*) *how great a love* (i. e. effect of love) *the Father hath vouchsafed us, that we should be called*, (that is, by an *Hebraism*, should be) *the children of God*. And accordingly, we are exhorted to *walk as dear children*, and behave ourselves *as the sons of God*, and *born of God our Father and Saviour*; in all things aiming, not only *to obey*, but to *please* God; and by *our shining works*, to engage those that behold them, *to glorify our Father, which is in heaven*.

* * * * NOTWITHSTANDING our greediness of the knowledge of natural things, and our preference of it, to that of divine things, we are not sure, but that after the great day of judgment, the present visible world, or our own notions, memories, and affections, or both these, will be so changed, that our past knowledge of physical things, may be either forgotten by us, or insipid to us: or else, that, if we shall retain any memory of our past studies, and labours, we shall find more delight in them, as they were exercises of a laudable industry, than as they helped us to acquire, the knowledge of transitory things.

THE present state of things will not last always; but that future state, that must succeed it, will be eternal. And therefore, prudence directs us to regard chiefly, as well in our studies, as in our actions, that state that will most concern our everlasting welfare. The *Christian virtuoso* is taught by the holy scripture, not only that *the fashion of this world passes away*, whilst we live in it, but that afterwards the world itself, as to its present constitution, will be destroyed, by that last fire, that will *dissolve the main parts*, and quite *shatter the frame of it*. And who knows, but that in that *new heaven, and new earth*, (that is, by an usual *Hebraism*, that new world) that God

God will ſubſtitute for it, the primordial frames of things, and the laws of motion, and conſequently, the nature of things corporeal, may be very differing from thoſe that obtain in the preſent worlds. And if this prove to be the caſe, our formerly acquired knowledge of natural things, may either grow uſeleſs to us, or miſlead us. But the knowledge of divine, and other immaterial objects, that will retain their nature, (which cannot periſh with the univerſal deflagration) will probably be, not only retained, but highly improved, in the glorious future ſtate. For *as* in the new *Jeruſalem*, there will be neither need of the ſun, nor yet be any night, becauſe a divine ſplendor will afford an abundant, and a perpetual light; *ſo* in the underſtandings of its bleſſed inhabitants, divine irradiations will diſpel all ignorance, that may cloud our happineſs, whether we do, or do not, enjoy the ordinary means of being enlightened; and we ſhall be ἰσάγγελοι, like, or equal to, thoſe clear ſighted ſpirits, the angels: ſo that there ſeems, almoſt, ſuch a difference between the preſent, and future knowledge of a true Chriſtian philoſopher, that the former may be compared to the light of a glow-worm, which is but very faint, and of ſmall extent, and will periſh with the ſubject of it, and is viſible but in the night; whereas the knowledge he hath of divine things, ſuch as God, and his truths, may be reſembled to the *aurora*, which, being though but an imperfect, yet a cœleſtial light, does not ſuffer by the riſing of the ſun, but *increaſes more and more, unto the perfect day.*

* * * * To increaſe our knowledge, and thereby our felicity in the future ſtate, as God *can*, ſo, it is probable, he *will*, excite in the mind new *ideas*, and notions, which it was a ſtranger to before; and theſe will furniſh freſh occaſions of true and delightful ſpeculations. Such *ideas*, we may preſume to have been excited in the angels, at the cloſe of the ſixth day's creation, when after all the numerous, and various qualities they had obſerved, in beings merely corporeal, or, at leaſt, not rational, they perceived in *Adam*, a wonderful, and, in probability, a ſurpriſing union of two ſuch diſtant natures, as an immaterial ſoul, and a human body. * * *

To thoſe *Chriſtian virtuoſi*, that are afraid to quit this world, chiefly, becauſe they fear to loſe the delightful philoſophical knowledge, they have of it; it may be repreſented, firſt, that it is likely, that as all our faculties will, in the future bleſſed ſtate, be enlarged and heightened; ſo will our knowledge alſo be, of all things that will continue worth it, and can contribute to our happineſs in that new ſtate. 2dly, And that God can make a rational creature happy, though it ſhould have no remembrance, or knowledge, of the world, or any corporeal creature, as the angels were happy before the world was created, and conſequently, without any knowledge of it, or any corporeal creature contained in it. * * * *

THOUGH the precepts of the Chriſtian religion, be each of them, ſingle and apart, excellent and uſeful, yet they are much more ſo, when they are conſidered as in a ſtate of union, and are conformed to in their entire ſyſtem; which brings into my mind what we read in *Geneſis*, that when God looked upon the particular work of every ſingle day, it is ſaid, *he ſaw that it was good*; but when he ſurveyed the whole aggregate of his creatures, as in one body, or ſyſtem, wherein by their connections, and ſubordinations, the parts mutually aſſiſt each other, and conſpire to promote the ſame ſame general ends; it is emphatically ſaid, that *he ſaw they were very good.* Gen. i. 31.
And though the precepts of the goſpel, as imperfectly as men have ſubmitted to, and embraced them, have done a great deal of good, and hindered a great deal of miſchief, in the world; yet they would incomparably more promote the welfare of mankind, if moſt men did not either altogether reject them, or pick and chooſe which of them they will adhere to, or elſe did conform but very imperfectly, to thoſe to which they profeſs ſubmiſſion: but did ſincerely, and reſolutely, and impartially, endeavour

endeavour to conform to the whole practical doctrine of the gospel. And indeed, if so excellent a religion were generally entertained with that entire belief, and hearty obedience, that it deserves, it would make so great change in the state of mankind for the better, that men may justly hope for little less, if not more happy and flourishing times, than those that have been celebrated under the name of the golden age. For I consider here, that there are four grand fountains of the mischiefs that afflict mankind, namely, *the* evils that men are naturally subject to as moral creatures, from external agents, such as inevitable sicknesses, famines, floods, *&c. the* evils that particular men bring upon themselves by their own inevitable faults, such as surfeits, venereal diseases, procured poverty, and other effects of intemperance, prodigality, *&c. the* evils that God inflicts on men for the punishment of their sins, or to repair the imperfections of their virtues, and graces; and lastly, *the* mischiefs men do to one another. I do not to these add as a fifth, the enmity of the devil, because he offending us as a moral agent, that hurts us, but by tempting and assisting us to hurt ourselves, or one another; the harms we receive from his enmity, may be conveniently enough referred to the second and fourth of the noxious springs we have freshly enumerated. Now as to the three latter, if the dictates of the Christian religion did universally and unreservedly sway mens minds and actions, men would be almost entirely preserved or freed from them. For where the precepts of the gospel, which teach men to live soberly, and prudently (for the word St. *Paul* employs signifies both) are conscientiously put in practice, they would avoid all those diseases, that multitudes draw upon themselves, and which as well shorten, as embitter, mens lives, by drunkenness, incontinence, quarrelsomness, *&c.* and would not only escape many bodily diseases, but also those distempers of the mind, that are oftentimes far more afflictive than they. For a true Christian will neither burn with rage, nor fret with impatience, nor swell with pride, nor pine with envy, nor disquiet himself with ambition, nor pinch himself for avarice, *&c.*

* * * I HAVE often wondered to see men so perversely partial, in the assent they give to truths, proposed by the same authority. For it seems strange to me, that Christians should believe those passages of scripture, which tell them, that their dead bodies, though made the food of worms, or fuel of flames, shall have their dispersed particles, at the last, reunited, (of which nature, or experience, affords us no examples, and against which philosophy, not to say reason, frames very specious and considerable objections;) and yet, at the same time, should refuse to believe what the scripture teaches, of the vanity of the world, the transitoriness of this life, the hurtfulness of sin and vice, the advantages of a virtuous life, and the joys of a good conscience; though all these doctrines are agreeable to the dictates of unprejudiced reason, and, as far as we can observe, or try, are verified also, by experience.

APHORISM I.

THERE are some professors of Christianity, that talk and live, as if they would introduce a theological magick, (if I may so call it) which, by the help of certain words, habits, gestures, and other ceremonies, may enable them, without sound faith, and good life, to do strange feats in Christianity, as superstitious magicians pretend by charms, spells, *&c.*

APHORISM II.

THERE are many vices that are mean, as well as sinful, and do as well depress, as deprave human nature; no less degrading it of its dignity, than they deprive it of its innocency.

APHORISM III.

THOUGH a fit of ſenſual delight may, for the preſent, make very vivid impreſſions on our eyes, and even dazzle them, yet being no leſs evanid, than affecting, it can no more produce a durable joy and tranquillity of mind, or compenſate for the want of it, than flaſhes of lightning though never ſo many, can turn the night into day, or make amends for the abſence of the ſun.

APHORISM IV.

THERE is a great difference betwixt pleaſure and joy, the one being a ſenſual, and the other a rational delight. And though vicious men may oftentimes have a greater ſhare, than pious men, of the former, yet virtuous men uſually have a far greater ſhare of the latter, which is more noble, more durable, and leſs allayed by preſent cenſures of reaſon, or remorſes of conſcience, or fear of after reckonings.

APHORISM V.

THE pleaſures, that religion depreciates, do but affect our mortal part, and are more mortal than it; uſually dying before the body, always dying with it, and ſometimes alſo, killing it.

APHORISM VI.

WHATEVER advantages of fortune a man may have, and whatever poſſeſſions he may be admired, or envied for, yet if he be ſwayed by irrational notions of things, and by impetuous and irregular appetites, whilſt that depraved conſtitution, and diſtemper of mind laſts, he is as uncapable of being made happy by the affluence of outward goods, as *Nebuchadnezzar* was, during his frantick condition, to enjoy and reliſh his magnificent palace, or his univerſal empire.

APHORISM VII.

GOD, oftentimes, by an affliction, deprives us of a preſent of his bounty, but by an effect of his love.

APHORISM VIII.

THOSE, who are content to part with their hopes of, or at leaſt forfeit their right to future goods, upon the pretence of preferring certainties, thoſe of the preſent life, before contingencies, are indeed far from having a certainty upon earth, of what they forego heaven for.

APHORISM IX.

THE ſerious meditation of *death* will teach men to deſpiſe the world, which can be enjoyed but during a tranſitory life, and the attentive contemplation of eternity will

will lead them to abhor those sinful practices, that tend to make it a miserable one for them.

PROPOSITION VI.

THAT heedful observation may satisfy a man of the vanity of the world, and the transitorines of external, and, especially, sinful enjoyments; and of the emptines of those things, for which men refuse and forsake the ways of piety, and virtue.

The heads of the sixth proposition.

1. VICARIOUS experience, *viz.* that which is afforded us by observation, of what passes in the world, and happens to other men, may be a sufficient proof of what is intended to be shown. And according to this, in divers cases, many men are more like to pass right judgments, because the case is not their own. 2. Vicarious experience may be either historical, such as may be gathered from the records, or histories, of other times, and countries; or personal, such as is afforded by the things, that have come within our own observation: the former of these, singly, may yield a very considerable testimony, but will become, much the more full and weighty, if a virtuoso add to it, his own personal experience of the things, that himself hath observed; which experience, his heedfulnes, and penetration, will render much more ample, than that of another man, of the same years. And if he hath lived any considerable time, he must have observed many instances of the contentment, good name, healthfulnes, comforts, supports, deliverances, and other blessings, accruing to good and worthy men, * by the divine justice, and partly springing from the nature of the things, about which they are, or have been, faulty. And these observations will be much increased, by discerning the intrigues of state, and of particular, especially great families. 3. But the grand force of vicarious experience lies in the testimony of good and bad men themselves, when they freely deliver their minds, especially when they are like, or going to die; for then masks are usually laid aside, or pulled off, and men make both more sincere confessions, and declarations, of their judgment, and also more right and impartial estimates of things. And then the comforts of pious men, and often the applauses, their own consciences give them, that have been eminently so, do make their condition to be incomparably more eligible, than that of the most prosperous sinners, who, on their death-beds, by their grief, and oftentimes amazement, if not horror, and despair, do not more sadly, than loudly, condemn, and bear testimony against the, as wretched, as criminal course of life they embraced.

To these six propositions is added a kind of short and summary review of the second and last part of the Christian virtuoso, with a peroration of the whole epistle, to the person it is addressed to. *Hæc omnia desunt.*

GENERAL APHORISMS.

1. A VIRTUOSO has four advantages, *&c.* one, that he is not swayed by vulgar opinions, and estimates. 2dly, That he can value pleasures, and employments, that are of a spiritual nature, and do not affect either the senses, or imagination; and therefore, 3dly, That he can always find himself delightful and useful employments, and

and ſo eſcape the dangers that idleneſs expoſes to. 4thly, That he knows the dignity, and reports of a ſoul.

2. IT ought much to elevate the aims, and raiſe the courage of a *virtuoſo*, to make ſome great attempts, and aſpire to high attainments, that the ſcripture itſelf teaches, that God made man, *but a little lower than the angel.*

APHORISM II.

WE ought heedfully to obſerve, and if we do ſo, we cannot but admire the ſignatures, *ſpecimens*, or ſtamps, of the divine wiſdom, power, and beneficence, that are, as it were, interwoven with the nature of the creatures; and indeed, in ſeveral of them, make, in ſome ſenſe, a part of it, as light, and colour, do in the rainbow, and tranſparency, and redneſs, in a ruby, *&c.*

APHORISM III.

EVEN in artificial, or factitious things, the artifice of nature, or, rather, of its author, may often far ſurpaſs the artifice of man: the texture of what man takes for the matter he is to work on, and which he looks upon, only as a material, to be faſhioned by him, as he ſhall pleaſe, being oftentimes more curious and admirable, than the contrivance it receives from art, which, frequently, does little more, than put together divers pieces of nature's workmanſhip. Thus the contexture of the hide of an ox, which, when dreſſed, we call leather, is a far more elaborate, and curious thing, than the outward form that is ſuperadded to it, to make it a ſhoe, or a boot. And a ball of ivory, or of *lignum vitæ*, is of a much leſs curious frame, as it is a globe, than as it conſiſts of an elephant's tooth, or the wood of a ſolid tree.

APHORISM IV.

THERE are ſome truths of theology, that, to become very uſeful to us, muſt be made very familiar; among which, and eſpecially, is a right notion of the Deity, which it is not enough, once in one's life, or now and then, at very diſtant times, to frame, and to aſſent to; as anciently, it was not ſufficient for a pilot to know, and confeſs, that the pole-ſtar is a cœleſtial light, fixed, elevated, and worthy to be peculiarly regarded, but he muſt take it for the guide of his navigation, and have, ever and anon, his eye upon it to ſteer his ſhip by, and keep it from deviating from the right courſe. And, indeed, there are ſome truths, that are ſo worthy to be remembered, and ſo eaſy to be forgotten by us, that they can ſcarce be too often inculcated, and eſtabliſhed, by too many *mediums* of probation.

APHORISM V.

IT ought not to be looked upon as a diſparagement, but an advantage, to the cauſe of the aſſertors of a Deity, that it draws arguments from the teſtimony of conſcience, and a ſenſation, or perception, of what paſſes in the mind itſelf. For it is true, indeed, that the grounds of theſe arguments have no novelty to endear them, but then it ſerves more to recommend them, than novelty could do, that they were always congruous to the mind, (or radicated in it) and are, as it were, twins to human nature, being either of the number of congenite notions, or impreſſions, or elſe very

near of kin to them; ſince, as the underſtanding is naturally furniſhed with ſome theoretical ideas, and notices, ſo the will is furniſhed with ſome practical ones, and, perhaps, the mind, with ſome, that naturally reſult from both.

APHORISM VI.

THE Chriſtian religion does not only ſerve its faithful diſciples, as the polar-ſtar does pilots, to *direct* them in the courſe of their navigation, but furniſhes them with winds too, to *ſet their ſhips a moving*, affording them, from above, ſtrength to ſail in that courſe, that it does from heaven, direct them to ſteer.

APHORISM VII.

As in a lute, a ſtring will be more affected by the ſoft ſound of another, that is uniſon to it, though, perhaps, it be but a ſmall one, than by the louder noiſe of all the other ſtrings, though many of them be much bigger: ſo a mind, that is uniſon, (if I may ſo ſpeak to truth,) that is diſpoſed to receive and cloſe with it, will be more wrought upon by one ſingle proof, that is, as it were, congruous, or conſonant, to it, than by many differing, and ſeemingly, more forcible arguments, that have not, to it, the like relation.

APHORISM VIII.

WHEN *Adam* was firſt brought into Paradiſe, it is like, that *though* he ſaw cauſe to admire ſeveral of the beautiful and flouriſhing trees, and other plants, that there ſurprized his ſight; *yet* he did not perceive the moſt admirable part of the artifice, expreſſed in their frame; namely, that each of them contained a latent prolifick principle, or ſeed, and ſome plants, as it is probable, a multitude of actual complete ſeeds, each of which was fitted, notwithſtanding the ſmallneſs of its bulk, to produce a tree reſembling the mother plant, and capable of ſucceſſively propagating itſelf to the world's end.

APHORISM IX.

THE *cicatricula* of an egg, or the germen in the ſeed of a plant, being, in reality, a model of the animal, or plant, to be produced from it; the wonderful minuteneſs of a machine, at once ſo very little, and ſo curious, does abundantly recommend the matchleſs ſkill of the divine mechaniſt. But it does no leſs recommend his providence too, which *both* foreſaw, that the concourſe of ſo many external bodies, and adjuvant cauſes, was neceſſary to plump up, compleat, and diſplay, the parts that lay admirably folded, and packed up in theſe little *ſeeds*, and took care, that, ordinarily, they ſhould be provided of all that aſſiſtance, which was neceſſary for them to have, from the favourable concourſe of external agents, and helpful cauſes.

APHORISM X.

MANY of the works of GOD, are as *magnificent*, as *exquiſite*, and in very many of them, he is as beneficent, as admirable.

APHO-

APHORISM XI.

The jollity, for which men are apt to envy the condition of divers notoriously vicious persons, is oftentimes but put on, or affected, by men, that seek to delude their disquieted consciences, by outward diversions. And such men are as little to be envied by a good man, notwithstanding their flashy mirth, as one in a violent fit of the mother, is, for the loudness of her laughter, which is as sure a sign, and oftentimes more, than as bad an effect of her disease, as profuse weeping is.

APHORISM XII.

It is scarce a more commmon, than prejudicial error, and the fruitful parent of many of the irregularities, and miscarriages, of human life, that men are not aware, that happiness consists not in the possession of external goods, but in a right *constitution*, and well grounded *satisfaction*, of the mind. And they that look upon felicity, as a thing without them, and fancy, that riches, honours, *&c.* have the same power to make a man *happy*, as diamonds, pearls, and other jewels, have, to make him *rich*, and so confound some uncertain, and but partial, helps to felicity, with felicity itself, do as unskilfully mistake, as the sick man would, that should think, that he must needs enjoy health, if he could be master of an apothecary's shop.

APHORISM XIII.

Those internal applauses of virtue, beyond which the most heroical heathens did not aspire, make but a pledge, and earnest, of the pious Christian's happiness: the testimony of conscience, not being by far, so great a blessing on the score, that conscience is a domestic judge, as on this, that it is God's vicegerent in the soul, and promises man a much higher recompence from God, than virtue is able to give him, or man to give himself.

APHORISM XIV.

Remember, what even men, not counted religious, will do, to quiet, and appease, not gratify their consciences; and consider thereupon, what a good man may do, not to procure the silence of his conscience, but to merit its applause.

APHORISM XV.

We are to esteem our condition, not in comparison of what it was before our last affliction, but upon the whole matter: and after collation made, of what we enjoy, and suffer, with what most other men, and, among them, many better than we, endure and want.

APHORISM XVI.

To them that alledge, that self-love is natural, and therefore not an imprudent principle of human actions, one may justly represent, that this assertion justifies only those, that *wisely*, but not those that inordinately love themselves; and such a self-love, is not only allowed, but promoted, as well as directed by Christianity.

APHORISM XVII.

THE experiences, that verify that part of the ſcripture, that we do feel, or know, may well give us a great confirmation of the truth of the reſt.

APHORISM XVIII.

WE have been from our infancy, ſo much accuſtomed to ſee nothing but bodies, and to receive all our informations from our ſenſes, that moſt men do not only make bodies, and corporeal natures, the only objects of their imaginations, and diſcourſes, but the models of their ideas, and higheſt notions, and the meaſures by which they eſtimate and judge of all other things, though, perhaps, of natures quite differing from thoſe that belong to bodies.

APHORISM XIX.

I THINK it becomes Chriſtian philoſophers, rather *to* try, whether they can inveſtigate the final cauſes of things, than, without trial, to take it for granted, that they are undiſcoverable; and *to* diſpenſe with themſelves for the neglect of enquiring, upon a ſuppoſition, that it muſt be fruitleſs; which courſe, a cenſorious man might ſay, was deviſed to exempt ignorance from diſparagement, and father an evitable, and therefore blameable, negligence, upon the preſumedly inevitable weakneſs of human nature.

APHORISM XX.

How negligent men are in obſerving things, and how much, upon that account, there probably remains, to be *diſcovered*, in probability, to be alſo uſefully *employed* in the works of nature, may be gueſſed at, by ſuch inſtances as theſe; *that* the loadſtone was, for many ages, admired for its attractive virtue, and yet men were not, till three or four ages ſince, aware of its directive faculty, whereby it diſpoſes both itſelf, and the needles it has touched, to regard, with their extremities, the northern and ſouthern poles: *the* ſtar-like figure of many flakes of ſnow, eſpecially thoſe that fall at the beginning of winter, or freezing times: *the* elliptical figure of the ſetting and riſing ſun: *the* great incaleſcence of quick lime with hot water, *&c.*

APHORISM XXI.

THE book of nature, is a fine and large piece of tapeſtry rolled up, which we are not able to ſee all at once, but muſt be content to wait for the diſcovery of its beauty, and ſymmetry, little by little, as it gradully comes to be more and more unfolded, or diſplayed.

A COMPLETE

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TO THE

WORKS

OF THE HONOURABLE

ROBERT BOYLE,

IN SIX VOLUMES.

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